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ARAB ENERGY CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS IN ABU DHABI

Syrian Oil Minister's Arrival

JN021329 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1310 GMT 2 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 March--'Isa Darwish, Syrian minister of oil and natural resources, arrived in the UAE this morning to participate in the first Arab energy conference opening in Abu Dhabi on Sunday.

The Syrian minister was received by several senior petroleum and natural resources ministry officials and by Syrian Ambassador to the UAE 'Adnan as-Safi.

UAE Minister's Speech

JN041107 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0942 GMT 4 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 4 March--The first Arab energy conference opened here this morning. The conference is organized by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), in cooperation with the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and the UAE Government.

UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah delivered a speech in which he emphasized the need for establishing a unified Arab energy policy. Dr al-'Utaybah said that this conference is being held as a result of the special circumstances through which the oil industry, a major part of world industry, is passing. It would have been better if the Arabs had met earlier to discuss matters of concern to them in complete detail.

He continued: This conference acquires special importance, because we are meeting in our capacity as producers and consumers of energy, to discuss alternative sources such as solar energy or electrical power.

Dr al-'Utaybah then proposed a closed session of the delegation heads, in order to discuss the bases of cooperation in various fields, including the sphere of nuclear energy, and the establishment of nuclear stations that would be capable of supplying energy to various Arab areas. Dr al-'Utaybah explained that the oil market is undergoing a disturbance as a result of supply, a shortage, and an increase in demand caused by the stoppage in Iranian oil production. This obliged some countries to increase their production in a limited manner, which led to price disturbances.

Dr al-'Utaybah added that the Arabs, in their capacity as oil producers, should keep away from the speculation market and should hold to the latest Abu Dhabi conference resolutions. Dr al-'Utaybah said that industrial countries are experiencing difficult circumstances as a result of the market situation. They are asking for an increase in production and supply. However, we too have our own political demands and a number of causes to which we are committed, led by the Palestinian cause. Therefore, we ask the countries that want our oil to help us settle the Palestinian cause equitably in a manner that would insure the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and stability in the Middle East. We also ask them to supply the developing nations with the necessary know-how and not to withhold this expertise and know-how from us, thus preventing our participation in the world's industrial progress.

Regarding oil companies, Dr al-'Utaybah said that these companies have exploited the situation and have raised their prices sharply, brining the price of one barrel of oil to more than $20.

We are asking the developing and consumer countries to stop their dealings with these companies and to agree on checking their greed. For this reason, we have called for an extraordinary meeting in Geneva on 16 March to discuss these problems and to prevent the oil companies from accumulating huge profits. Dr al-'Utaybah called on Arab oil-producing countries to support the activities of Arab funds, whose mission is to finance Arab development projects.

Moroccan Minister's Arrival

JN050711 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0635 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--Moussa Saadi, Moroccan minister of energy and mining resources, arrived here this morning to head his country's delegation to the first Arab energy conference which began its meetings yesterday morning.

He was welcomed at the airport by Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, and other senior ministry officials.

Kuwaiti, Bahraini Ministers' Departure

JN050730 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0640 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti oil minister, and Yusuf ash-Shirawi, Bahraini minister of development and industry, left here this morning after heading their countries' delegations to the first Arab energy conference.

They were seen off at the airport by Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources; Qasim 'Umar al-Yaqut, Kuwaiti ambassador to the UAE; and senior petroleum and natural resources ministry officials.

End of Closed Session

JN051904 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1815 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--The closed session of the higher committee of the first Arab energy conference, which is made up of the ministers heading the Arab delegations to the conference, ended a short while ago. The session lasted 2 hours.

Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, said following the session: We discussed the various aspects of topics related to energy. We also discussed fields of cooperation. We will meet again on Wednesday to complete these discussions.

Conference Reconvenes

JN060840 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0625 GMT 6 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 March--The first Arab energy conference resumed its work here today. The situation of energy in the Arab countries is the main topic of discussion. The morning session was opened at 0900 by 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Shali, member of the Sudanese delegation.

"An Appraisal of the Energy Situation in the Arab Countries" was the title of the first working paper submitted to the conference. It was submitted by 'Usamah al-Jamali, director of the economic department in the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries.

ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS IN KUWAIT

Amir, Foreign Ministers' Meeting

LD051120 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] The amir this morning received in turn tne Syrian, Saudi and Libyan foreign ministers, who handed him messages from their respective heads of state, presiden al-Asad, King Khalid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Prime Minister, Ghali Meeting

LD051122 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] The crown prince and prime minister today received Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, in the presence of the Egyptian ambassador in Kuwait and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Cairo.

Extraordinary Session

LD051126 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] The extraordinary meeting of the Arab League Council resumed today. It is being held in the Kuwait Hilton Hotel to discuss the dispute between the two halves of Yemen. The meeting resumed today at the level of ministers of foreign affairs under the chairmanship of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Today's meeting was restricted to the heads of delegations and two additional members of each delegation. Our radio and television reporter learned that the ministers would discuss, during this executive meeting, practical ways of securing the cease-fire between the YAR and the PDRY, and guaranteeing that a recurrence of the armed clashes between the two fraternal countries would not take place in the future.

Meeting Adjournment

JN051247 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 5 March--The Arab foreign ministers adjourned their first closed session this afternoon. The ministers are due to hold another closed session at 1700 today.

The morning session was addressed by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister and chairman of the conference; the YAR foreign minister; the PDRY foreign minister; the Syrian foreign minister; and the Libyan foreign secretary.

All speeches centered on the proposed formulas for finding an immediate solution to the conflict between the two parts of Yemen.

Second Closed Session

JN051658 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1645 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 5 March--The Arab foreign ministers resumed their second closed session this evening to reach an agreement on details to resolve the YAR-PDRY dispute.

Conference sources have told the GULF NEWS AGENCY that a slight amendment was made this afternoon on the joint proposal submitted by Iraq, Syria and Jordan following consultations among several heads of delegations.

The sources added that the amendment aims at insuring unanimous consent on the details of the agreement. The sources, however, did not elaborate on the nature of this amendment. Nonetheless, they expressed optimism regarding the conference's ability to reach a final agreement tonight which will be announced during the final session expected to be held tomorrow morning, Tuesday.

Libya's Al-Turayki's Speech

LD051834 Tripoli JANA in English 1733 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The foreign secretary, Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, said that clashes between the two Yemens had been expected as a result of the defeat of American imperialism in Iran. At a press conference held last night, he said that following its defeat in Iran, American imperialism was endeavoring to create problems in the Arab Gulf by hinting that the gulf's security was threatened.

The foreign secretary pointed out that the gulf's security was threatened indeed by American imperialism itself, referring to the recent statements of the American state secretary of defence which are proof of this. He said that the Arab nation was to expect further threats of this kind from the U.S.A. as it was trying to tighten its grip on the Arab Gulf after losing Iran, under the pretext of protecting the region.

Dr at-Turayki then warned that the dispute between the two Yemens would be used to intervene in their internal affairs. In this respect he referred to foreign forces and American imperialism which are trying to prevent the Yemeni people from playing their role in the Arab world as well as from establishing a progressive state in South Yemen. Plots are being devised against Democratic Yemen, he said, because of its rejection of the capitulatory policy of the defeated Egyptian president.

The foreign secretary expressed his hopes that the conference would succeed in establishing sound foundations to stop imperialist forces from exploiting the situation in the Yemen and from dealing a blow to nationalist forces. At-Turayki stressed the necessity for sparing no efforts to merge the two Yemens and to set up a united national front in the area which will contribute to support the cause of the Arab nation. He said that the Arabs should help the two Yemens to achieve unity and not to interfere in their internal affairs. The Jamahiriyah, he added, does not approve of a war between brothers and had exerted intensive efforts for the unity of the two Yemens. He said that the masses' march continued in the region, evident from the events in Iran. He emphasized the deep relationship between the Islamic revolution in Iran and that of the great first of September in the Jamahiriyah, and said that relations between the two countries would grow stronger in the two peoples' interests. He pointed out that the Jamahiriyah was the only Arab country which had not set up relations with the puppet regime of the shah and that the Great First of September Revolution was the first to herald the people's revolution in Iran. The foreign secretary affirmed that any agreement between the Zionist enemy and the regime of the defeated Egyptian president would be of no value as the Arab nation and the Palestinian people reject any capitulationist agreement. He said that the fate of any agreement will be similar to that concluded between America and the shah. Dr at-Turayki concluded by praising the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front for its role to foil the capitulationist course of the defeated Egyptian president.

YAR, PDRY Summit Request

JN051902 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1855 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 5 March--Citing conference sources, the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Kuwait reports that the Arab foreign ministers are seeking to convene a YAR-PDRY summit conference to put a stop to the deteriorating relations between the two countries.

Still citing conference sources, the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent reported a short while ago that the conferees are now discussing the formation of two political and military Arab committees whose task will be to supervise the implementation of the decision that will be issued by the conference. These two committees will be authorized to call for an Arab League meeting to study any problem that might impede their task.

Algerian Foreign Minister's Proposal

JN051925 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 5 March--Arab foreign ministers conference sources tonight confirmed reports that the conference members are leaning toward convening a meeting between the YAR and the PDRY at the summit level. The same sources add that the proposal, which was put forward by Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Abdelaziz Bouteflika, was welcomed by all heads of delegations. The two leaders of the two parts of Yemen also agreed to the proposal. The YAR demanded the withdrawal of the PDRY forces from its territory before accepting to attend the forthcoming meeting. Citing conference sources, the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent reports that the ministers are discussing an amendment made to the draft proposal which was put forward by Iraq, Syria and Jordan and which will constitute the basis for resolving the dispute between the two parts of Yemen.

Iraqi Foreign Minister's Address

JN052106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 5 March--The Arab League emergency meeting resumed work tonight. It began by discussing a working paper submitted by Iraq, Syria and Jordan. The paper includes a continuation of the cease-fire, withdrawal of the forces of the two sides from the border area, nonintervention in internal affairs, stopping the information campaign between the two parts of Yemen and formation of military and political committees to supervise implementation of the agreement. An INA correspondent in Kuwait reports that a proposal was put forward at the meeting to convene a summit meeting between the leaders of the two parts of Yemen attended by a number of Arab leaders. The correspondent says that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, expressed his country's readiness to host this conference.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi addressed the meeting. He thanked the Kuwaitis for their efforts in convening this meeting. He said that Iraq has good relations with the PDRY and the YAR.

Dr Hammadi said by its initiative with Syria and Jordan, Iraq has tried to limit the dispute between the two parts of Yemen and to reach an agreement between them. Hammadi further said that policy in the Arab world must be based on principles and governed by rules. Sovereignty and nonintervention in internal affairs must be respected. Coexistence among various regimes must be a part of Arab policy.

Dr Hammadi went on to say that entry of Arab forces into another Arab country is inadmissible. In the case of aggression against an Arab country, all Arab countries must defend that country against aggression. Dr Hammadi stressed faith in Arab unity and the need to keep unity away from unsound methods. He stressed that unity built by force will eventually end in failure.

Dr Hammadi said that he had invited the foreign ministers of Jordan, the YAR and the PDRY to Baghdad where a meeting was held under Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn. The meeting resulted in complete and firm agreement of views between the foreign ministers of the two parts of Yemen based on the principles on which the cease-fire would be reached. Dr Hammadi said that at the meeting the foreign ministers of the two parts of Yemen expressed their adherence to the four principles of the agreement. Dr Hammadi stressed the need to maintain stable traditions for relations among the Arab countries linked to the supreme Arab interests, regardless of any other regional considerations.

YAR Foreign Minister's Address

JN052146 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Speech by YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj at the Arab foreign ministers extraordinary conference in Kuwait on 5 March--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency Chairman of the conference, Your Excellencies Brother Ministers, Your Excellency Arab League Secretary General:

It gives the YAR president, Government and people pain and sorrow to have to call your esteemed council to an extraordinary meeting once again to brief you on the continued acts of aggression of the PDRY. In the name of the YAR delegation, I thank you all for your participation at this extraordinary meeting in response to the YAR's [words indistinct] submitted to the Arab League Secretariat as a natural result of the continued and tendentious aggression perpetrated by the PDRY against Yemeni towns and villages. This aggression has exposed the security and peace of the country to grave dangers and destruction and has created a state of instability in the area.

Esteemed brothers, on 24 September 1978 the crime of assassinating the late martyr President Husayn al-Ghashmi was committed. It can be asserted that since that date, the tension between the two parts of Yemen has entered the stage of maximum [words indistinct].

Dear brothers, the issue of unity between the two parts of Yemen is a legitimate right of all the sons of the Yemeni people in the two parts of the country. Yemeni unity can be achieved through a purposeful and serious dialog taking into consideration first and foremost the role and wishes of the Yemeni people. Military confrontations and (?resorting to violence) cannot realize such a noble and patriotic objective between the two parts of Yemen.

Dear brothers, on behalf of the YAR delegation to this esteemed council, I would like to reaffirm our total commitment to the statement issued at 2200 on Friday, 2 March 1979. This statement was the result of the arduous efforts exerted by our brothers in Iraq, Syrian and Jordan.

On behalf of the YAR, I would like to record our deep gratitude and high appreciation for these constructive and benevolent efforts which were exerted by our brothers in Iraq, Syria and Jordan in particular and by our brothers in all the Arab countries to stop the bloodshed and out of respect to pledges and charters.

Mr Chairman, esteemed colleages: The YAR delegation, while stressing its concern for the importance of adhering to the provisions mentioned above, calls on the brothers in this esteemed council to support these provisions and overcome all the difficulties that might impede the immediate and complete implementation of these provisions. May God grant us success for the good of our people and nation. Thank you.

Resolutions, Statement

JN060958 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0830 GMT 6 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 6 March--At their emergency meeting which was concluded here early today, the Arab foreign ministers adopted resolutions aimed at ending the deterioration of relations between the YAR and the PDRY. It was agreed to immediately end the fighting and that both countries will withdraw their forces from the other's border within a 10-day period. A military and political committee has been formed under Mahmud Riyad, Arab League secretary general, and is made up of seven Arab states. These states are: Kuwait, the UAE, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Algeria and the PLO. The task of this committee is to implement the resolutions that have been adopted during this conference and to prepare the suitable atmosphere to restore normal relations between the two sides. The committee has been authorized to call on the Arab League Council to convene at the foreign ministers' level any time this committee deems fit. It was also agreed to make efforts to hold a summit between the YAR and PDRY. The Arab foreign ministers adopted these resolutions following a 10-hour closed session during which intensive efforts were made to reconcile the two disputing sides and to emerge with positive results so as to radically solve the existing problems between the two countries. The following is the text of the resolutions:

After reviewing the existing situation between the PDRY and the YAR and due to the regrettable, serious situation and [word indistinct] impact of these events on the Arab nation, the Arab League, which held its extraordinary session in Kuwait 4-6 March 1979, decides the following:

1. To approve the agreement that was reached on 1 March 1979 between the two parts of Yemen through the efforts of the Arab Mediation Committee made up of Syria, Iraq, and Jordan. The agreement was broadcast in both San'a' and Aden.
2. To immediately implement this agreement and to have the two sides withdraw their armed forces within a 10-day period.
3. To stop the two sides' intervention in each other's domestic affairs and also to prevent any intervention by third sides.
4. To have the two sides cease their information campaigns.
5. To reopen the borders between the two countries and to restore normal relations, including trade relations and the free movement of citizens.
6. To form a follow-up committee made up of the foreign ministers of the following countries: Jordan, the UAE, Algeria, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, and Kuwait, in addition to the Arab League secretary general. This committee will supervise the implementation of this decision and will call for conducting a dialog between the two fraternal governments at the summit level so as to restore normal relations, achieve their joint objectives, and implement the Cairo and Tripoli accords and the recommendations of the unity committees.
7. To form a military supervisory committee made up of representatives of the two parts of Yemen and of the countries mentioned in Article 6 under the auspices of the Arab League. The member states will bear the expenses of implementing this task according to the proportion of each country's share of the league's budget.
8. The follow-up committee is authorized to call the Arab League to convene at the foreign ministers' level to review any development conflicting with this decision so as to define those responsible.
9. The follow-up committee and the Arab League secretary general will submit a report at the next meeting of the Arab League Council. This report will include a review of the stages of the implementation of this decision.

BAHRAIN

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES EXISTENCE OF 'SECRET' U.S. EQUIPMENT

JN032043 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1844 GMT 3 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Paris, 3 March--Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak, foreign minister of Bahrain, has denied the reports reiterated recently that secret U.S. equipment has been transferred to Bahrain from Iran and that Bahrain has become a new base or center for U.S. espionage monitoring equipment. The minister said: No such U.S. equipment has been transferred to Bahrain. We have not received such a request and if we do, we will turn it down.

In an exclusive interview published today in the Paris-based Lebanese weekly AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, the Bahraini foreign minister said that his country does not welcome any foreign presence and does not intend to be anyone's cats-paw. Bahrain does not want to go against the Arab and gulf community, he said.

The Bahraini foreign minister also affirmed that the Bahraini Government does not believe in military bases and blocs. He said: We only believe in collective Arab defense.

Regarding the proposed gulf summit in the wake of the Iranian incidents, the Bahrain foreign minister denied there is any intention to convene a gulf summit now following the overthrow of the imperial regime in Iran. He said: We in Bahrain believe in cooperation at the highest levels. Summit conferences are only useful when the proper groundwork has been laid for them so their results will match the importance of the events. If the idea is simply to hold such a conference for show, then we should not expect it to achieve the desired results.

The Bahraini foreign minister said: We in the gulf have started coordinating and unifying our efforts from the basic level in economic, trade and health areas. This will be followed by comprehensive coordination on the political and defense levels. The minister affirmed that the gulf region is taking firm steps in that direction.

Commenting on the Iranian people's revolution, the Bahraini minister said: This is an internal revolution. We hope that there will be stability and prosperity because this will be in the interest of the Iranian people.

The Bahraini minister said: Some people are trying to exploit the situation in Iran and in the gulf in general. There are certain factions which do not wish this region good. They want to provoke incidents to set this region afire.

The Bahraini minister declined to say who these factions are, but he added that the provocation of such incidents does not just take place in Iran and the gulf but also in other parts of the Arab world, as in Lebanon for instance. He said: We are dutybound to pinpoint these explosives which are intended to set the region afire. The minister called on the Arab peoples and regimes to be watchful and to discover and defuse these timebombs. He said that Bahrain wishes Iran and its people every good.

The Bahraini foreign minister said: We support any Iranian regime which is supported by the Iranian people. We wish Iran stability, prosperity and progress. We consider that an essential factor for the stability of the entire region.

The minister added: I believe that any established Iranian government will be guided by the principle of cooperation with its neighbors in the interest and stability of the region within the framework of defending the independence and stability of the region against any foreign intervention.

Regarding the Iranian Islamic republic, the Babraini minister said: This is one of the principles of the Khomeyni revolution which the Iranians have accepted. We hope that they will achieve all their aspirations under this republic.

Regarding the Syrian-Iraqi dialog to achieve unity, the Bahraini foreign minister said: We warmly welcome the Syrian-Iraqi dialog because we consider it the real and practical answer to the Zionist onslaught and continuous defiance of the Arab states. We in the gulf support these unity efforts and wish them success, because the establishment of a new unity front will not only protect Syria and Iraq but the gulf states. Zionist ambitions cover the entire Arab world.

Commenting on the Camp David talks, the Bahraini foreign minister said: I believe in the resolutions of the ninth Arab summit in Baghdad. If there is no radical change with regard to Palestinian representation and the complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the West Bank and Gaza, then no agreement will be signed.

The Bahraini foreign minister emphasized that the Palestinian problem is the main issue. Failure to solve it means failure to achieve stability in the area. The Iranian incidents have affected and will continue to affect the Middle East question in general. The Camp David agreements must be reconsidered. Camp David junior and Camp David the second will not achieve any results and As-Sadat might not sign the agreement.

The Bahraini minister also emphasized that the Baghdad summit resolutions have set the framework for Arab cooperation and have crystallized a collective Arab view of the next phase in the confrontation with the Zionist enemy whether in peace or war. The resolutions have also presented the world with a unified Arab stand.

The minister added that the Baghdad summit has resulted in a historical commitment which no one can disavow. It is a unique commitment, he said.

The minister concluded by saying: We came out of the Baghdad summit with basic principles. Efforts are now being exerted to implement them. We hope that the joint efforts will continue. Were it not for the Baghdad summit, the Arabs would have been divided and in a pitiable position.

DEFENSE MINISTER SPEAKS WITH SAUDI COUNTERPART

LD041150 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Manama, 4 March, SNA--His Royal Highness Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, met with Shaykh Hamad ibn Isa Al Khalifah, Bahrain's heir apparent and defense minister, this morning. During the meeting, cordial talks took place on bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries. The meeting was attended by the Saudi ambassador to Bahrain. The amir also received a number of Saudi expatriates today.

His Royal Highness Amir Sultan arrived in Manama yesterday for a visit to Bahrain of several days for talks on bilateral relations and issues of interest to the region in particular, and Arab affairs in general.

Saudi Defense Minister's Departure

JN051427 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1345 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 5 March--Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, Saudi minister of defense and aviation, left here today for home following a 3-day visit to Bahrain. Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah led those who saw the Saudi guest off. Also seeing off the Saudi prince were his Bahraini counterpart Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the Saudi ambassador in Manama, and senior civilian and military officials. Prince Sultan arrived in Manama on Saturday and held talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

KUWAIT

GOVERNMENT WELCOMES YAR-PDRY CEASE-FIRE

ID031038 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 3 Mar 79 ID

[Excerpts] Kuwait--Kuwait has welcomed the agreement between the Yemen Arab Republic and the Democratic Republic of Yemen to begin a cease-fire along their border as of this morning.

'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, the minister of state for Cabinet affairs, in statements made public here today, has announced that this agreement, proclaimed last night, would help make a success of the emergency meeting to be held by the Arab League Council at the foreign minister level in Kuwait tomorrow to discuss the differences between the two parts of Yemen.

Mr Husayn has told AR-RAY'Y AL-'AMM that Kuwait hopes the new agreement will stand and that it will help solve all current differences for the good of both parts of Yemen.

In his statement, the minister said that Kuwait hopes no more blood will be shed, that the differences between the two parts of Yemen will be settled through dialog and that commonsense and wisdom will prevail, "because the national interest demands that we be aware of the imminent dangers which require the marshalling of efforts and a unity of forces against the Zionist enemy."

PAPER SAYS IRAN TO WITHDRAW ALL FORCES FROM OMAN

ID031016 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0729 GMT 3 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Kuwait--Gen Mohammad Vali Qarani, chief of staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, in a statement published here today, has announced that Iran will complete the withdrawal of its forces stationed in the Sultanate of Oman within the next 4 days. This move comes as part of the implementation of Iran's new policy of abandoning its role as "gendarme of the gulf."

General Qarani has told the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN that the role his country played during the former era of the shah has "fallen down forever" and that open arms and hands extended to every one have replaced the "policeman's truncheon." He said that what dictated the decision to withdraw Iranian forces from Oman was the policy that the task of Iran's forces is confined to defending the country, and that "now we are asked to do no more than that." He has pointed out that Iran's relations with the gulf countries are now being shaped in a new way, which he described as "stemming from the fraternal Islamic spirit and having as their base the policy of open arms and extended hands."

He said that Iran now considers itself "a confrontation state" against Israel, and it was from this position that the decision was made to begin withdrawing its forces in the Sultanate of Oman a week ago. He said: "The departure of these forces will continue for 4 days." He explained that the same consideration has prompted his country to withdraw the Iranian military unit which used to participate in the UN forces in southern Lebanon. He stated that it was illogical for this unit to participate "in the task of separating the Arabs and the Israelis when it belonged to a confrontation state."

General Qarani admitted that a state of "disorder" is currently prevailing in the Iranian forces. However, he stated that attempts are being made to restore order. He has explained that the "breakup" which occured in their ranks initially was in the revolution's favor; for "the commanders at that time were unable to make a move." He stated that there is a crisis of confidence between the people and the army, which he described as constituting a psychological barrier between them, since "the army, or rather its commanders, to be more precise, were tools of the shah in crushing the masses."

ARAB LEAGUE SESSION ON YEMEN VIEWED

LD041222 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah will open the meetings of the extraordinary session of the Arab League Council this evening. The session is being held to discuss ways and means to avoid the shedding of Arab blood and to prevent a renewal of the fighting among the brother Yemenis, in accordance with the wish of all Arabs from the gulf to the ocean.

The brother leaders of both parts of Yemen are certainly aware of the extent of the danger that would result from the continuation of the fighting, and consequently understand the nature and slope of the interactions that such a situation could create in the wide Arab arena. In fact, there are numerous outside quarters which wish, even for one moment, to have a foothold in this vital part of the world and to interfere in its domestic affairs under varying pretexts and slogans. Thus these quarters try to seize every opportunity to do away with security and stability in this region and to prevent its peoples from attending to their own affairs and from obtaining secure prosperity and development.

From its position of national responsibility, Kuwait realizes the seriousness of any explosion in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula, in particular, and in the Arab arena in general. And consequently it realizes the degree of responsibility laid upon its shoulders to redress the situation, check such a threat and prevent it from spreading, thereby blocking the way of the quarters wishing to exploit the current crisis.

As we bless this great Arab meeting, we express our wish for the conferees to produce good results--results that will benefit both parts of Yemen and safeguard the Arab nation's strength. We hope thereby that new relations will be established among its countries--relations that will retrieve their glories and solidarity and thus attain enough power to defeat oppression and aggression and retrieve the Arabs' usurped rights.

OFFICIAL SOURCE DENIES ARMED FORCES ON ALERT

JN040936 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0920 GMT 4 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 4 March--A responsible Kuwaiti source has denied that Kuwait placed its armed forces on alert following the eruption of border fighting between the two Yemens. The Kuwaiti source added that there is no need for such a measure.

Quoting the Kuwaiti official, whose name it did not reveal, the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS says today that there is nothing which calls for the adoption of such a measure.

The Saudi newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT had earlier mentioned that all Arab Gulf states placed their armed forces in a state of alert in view of current developments.

QATAR

OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES EFFECTS OF IRANIAN EVENTS

NC051331 Doha QNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Paris, 5 March--Qatari Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani has stated that the events in Iran have caused a big change in the international oil balance and have left some effects wich cannot be ignored on the oil-producing states and the industrial consumer states.

In an interview published here in today's issue of the weekly newspaper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, the minister affirmed that the OPEC states will try during their meeting in Geneva this month to assess the situation after the stormy crisis which has gripped the world oil market in the wake of the Iranian events.

Asked about the possibility of introducing changes in the oil prices, the Qatari finance and oil minister said that this will be up to OPEC as a whole, and he cannot anticipate matters by giving his opinion. His excellency added that during the Geneva meeting OPEC will also discuss the market situation and the urgent need for an assessment of production and consumption quantities or supply and demand. This is in addition to the fluctuating dollar rate, the rate of inflation and conditions in the industrial consumer states. In the light of all this we will try to reach a unanimous decision, he said.

Asked why Qatar and the UAE have decided to increase the price of their light oil, his excellency said: The light is different from regular oil. Light oil is considered a good commodity desired by all consumers. Therefore, the decision to increase the price of this type of oil is not related to the OPEC price framework. The price of regular oil is still the same as that set officially by OPEC.

SAUDI ARABIA

GULF STATES' ARMED FORCES REPORTEDLY ON ALERT

NC031407 Doha QNA in Arabic 1350 GMT 3 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Jidda, 3 March--Citing informed sources, the newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, published here, says today that all the Arab Gulf states have placed their armed forces in a state of alert in view of current developments. According to these sources, the Gulf leaders are now exchanging serious information on the dimensions of the plot hatched against the region.

SUDANESE MINISTER ARRIVES IN JIDDA 4 MARCH

ID042055 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Jidda--Sudan's minister for presidential affairs, Dr Baha ad-Din Muhammad Idris, arrived in Jidda this evening on a working visit of several days. He was welcomed on arrival by an official of the Protocol Department of the Royal Court and the Sudanese ambassador to the kingdom, Al-Fatih Bisharah [name and title as received].

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS MILITARY CONSCRIPTION UNDER REVIEW

JN051423 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1313 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 5 March--Saudi Minister of Defense and Aviation Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has asserted that the geographic position and enormous oil wealth of the gulf region makes it a target for foreign ambitions. In an interview with the GULF NEWS AGENCY the Saudi minister said: "Higher Arab interests demand the development of relations among all the Arab states."

Answering a question on the best ways to stave off dangers to the region, he said: Solidarity exists among the states of the region. We have to resort to reason and logic in the interest of the peoples of the free world--as we benefit technologically from the free world--not to the extent that harms our interests in any way, but in a manner that will allow us to rise to the occasion and deal with others in accordance with our needs for industrialization and arms, which we hope will be only for defensive purposes and for the protection of our homeland and sanctities.

Referring to Saudi-Bahraini relations and his current visit to Bahrain, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: "Relations between the two countries have a special character and do not need developing because the principles of these relations have been laid down by men who assessed the situation very well. The aim of my visit to Bahrain is to meet with His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the ruler of Bahrain."

The Saudi defense minister declared that his country is seriously thinking of introducing compulsory military service and that it is now studying this matter. He said: "We hope this idea will become reality during the coming months for the good and interests of the homeland."

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM ARAB LEAGUE MEETING

ID060846 Riyadh SNA Arabic 0820 GMT 6 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Jidda--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, this morning returned to Jidda from Kuwait after heading the kingdom's delegation to the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council which ended this morning.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS

ID021021 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 2 Mar 79 pp 20,21 ID

[Interview granted by Saudi Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal to AL-HAWADITH publisher Salim al-Lawzi, presumably in Riyadh--date not given]

[Text] Despite the deep turbulence the Iranian revolution has generated in the gulf waters, as I talked with Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, what has happened at the Iranian shore of the gulf seemed very, very far away, although the distance between the two shores of the gulf is only 10 minutes by plane.

A Western ambassador told me that U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown was surprised by the Saudi officials' cool nerves when he visited the kingdom 10 days ago. According to all U.S. estimates, Iranian events were bound to arouse the fear of Saudis and make them more amenable to accepting security arrangements that would compensate the Americans for the bases and facilities they lost. But the U.S. secretary of defense found himself waiting for 2 hours for his meeting with Crown Prince Amir Fahd.

Concerning the reasons for the rebuff to President Carter's personal envoy--the White House had announced that the U.S. defense secretary was visiting the area as the U.S. president's personal envoy--I preferred to discuss the subject directly with Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal.

I said: Prior to his visit to you, U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown said that he was carrying with him broad U.S. strategic plans to confront the dangers threatening the gulf area. Is it true that he discussed with you the possibility of establishing a regional defense pact in which Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the United States will take part, as the U.S. Washington POST and the French LE MONDE reported?

He said: We will not enter into alliances beyond the Arab and Islamic frameworks. These are the only two frameworks that govern the kingdom's foreign policy.

[Question] What were the plans that the U.S. secretary carried with him?

[Answer] The Americans feel that the Soviet Union is trying to benefit from the changing situation in the area and believe that the Soviets are trying to deepen disputes and encourage violence. They consider this a grave situation that they cannot accept or remain silent about because it disturbs all the international balances. We have explained to the U.S. secretary and his aides that we have nothing to do with international strategies. The domain in which we work is the Arab and Islamic domain. We believe that the Zionist danger is a threat to the Arab area and its stability. The only way to restore balance, calm and stability to the area is for Israel to accept a withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, to return Jerusalem and to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

[Question] There was then no discussion of any joint defense arrangements such as those reported--that there is a U.S. plan to send 3,000 U.S. military experts headed by General Simon to protect the eastern area of Saudi Arabia against any potential sabotage in the oil fields?

[Answer] U.S. and Soviet plans are found in Washington and Moscow. As far as we are concerned, we have no such plans. The kingdom's security and stability depend on its own people.

[Question] The shah's downfall has created a military vacuum. What security arrangements will be made in the area?

[Answer] We fully believe that the area's security depends on two elements: foreign noninterference in our affairs and the desire for relations of understanding and cooperation among the countries of the area. We see no threat to the gulf's security from any country, and there is no danger from internal changes as long as there is no foreign interference in such changes.

[Question] Does this mean that you do not believe that there is a security vacuum?

[Answer] It is the major powers which have worldwide strategies that are talking about security vacuum. As for the countries that care for their regional security, it is their duty to establish good relations with one another and to seek to keep away from international conflicts. This is the logic according to which we deal with the countries of the area.

[Question] The U.S. TIME magazine said in its issue before last that Pentagon sources suggested that a group of trusted Iranian pilots move the 78 F-16 planes and the 500 Phoenix missiles to military bases in Saudi Arabia so that these sophisticated weapons will not fall into Soviet hands. Has this happened?

[Answer] It never happened. In fact, nobody approached us on the subject. We only read about it in the papers.

[Question] Before his government's downfall, Shahpur Bakhtiar said that Iran does not wish to continue to be a policeman in the gulf. Bazargan's government is, of course, of the same opinion. Who then is the alternative policeman?

[Answer] At no time did we feel that there was a policeman for the gulf. Such talk was more imaginery and a matter of personal views than a reality on the basis of which we cooperated with Iran. Imagination is something and reality is another thing.

[Question] What is your opinion of the creation of an Islamic republic in Iran or, in other words, what is your opinion of Ayatollah Khomeyni's call to make Iran an Islamic republic with the Koran as its constitution?

[Answer] We hope this call will become a new strength for Islam, especially since we have read statements by the Iranian religious leaders about the unification of Islamic doctrines. We too believe that the Sunni-Shi'ite difference is political and not religious. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom has tried to contribute to the many historical attempts to unify Islamic doctrines. The success of Khomeyni's call to achieve this historical demand is sufficient to give the march of Islamic progress an impetus for a great step forward.

[Question] Has the kingdom decided to deal with the leftist regimes in the area?

[Answer] For example?

[Question] Numayri's talks with Amir Fahd. Reports assert that the basic subject that the Sudanese president discussed was the principles of understanding with Mengistu Haile Mariam's regime in Ethiopia. It has also been said that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat discussed with Amir Fahd, immediately following Numayri's visit, the possibility of reaching an understanding with the Aden regime.

[Answer] It has become redundant to say that the Kingdom believes in the good neighbor policy regardless of the type of regime involved. If there are attempts to reach an understanding between Sudan and Ethiopia, we would welcome it, especially because such attempts would lead to solving the Eritrean people's right to self-determination.

[Question] What about Aden?

[Answer] Again, if there is a sincere intention to purify the relations and establish them on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of others, then we are completely ready for this. We want and we are striving for good relations to prevail in all countries of the area, particularly the sisterly Arab countries.

[Question] Did you read the Soviet flirtation with Saudi Arabia which Igor Belayev wrote?

[Answer] Do you call it "Soviet flirtation?"

[Question] Yes.

[Answer] What is your [Al-Lawzi's] impression of this type of flirtation?

[Question] Moscow wants to open the door to economic cooperation with the kingdom. If there are objections to establishing diplomatic relations, would you object to the establishment of commercial agencies?

[Answer] We have no objection to trade transactions with any of the world's countries. We deal economically with many countries with which we have no diplomatic representation. Finland, for example, has no embassy in our country but still we deal with it economically. The same thing applies to Portugal and several Latin American countries with which we have no representation. This does not mean that we do not recognize them or that we do not wish to establish trade or political relations with them.

[Question] Do I understand from this that you have no objection to the establishment of Soviet commercial agencies?

[Answer] A commercial agency is usually established to facilitate an existing trade and not the other way around.

[Question] Did you reply to the message which Yasir 'Arafat carried to you from the Soviet leaders? What are the objections to the establishment of diplomatic relations with them?

[Answer] Amir Sa'ud ignored the first part of the question. He only said: There were relations between us and the Soviets in the past, but they were the ones who stopped these relations. We wish to assert that the nonexistence of diplomatic relations does not mean that we do not recognize the USSR or the importance of the role it plays in international politics. On the contrary, we have more than once expressed our gratitude for the positive stands it adopted toward Arab causes just as we expressed the gratitude toward all the countries that stood with us.

[Question] Let us go back to the problems of the area. Following the Iranian events, Kuwait began taking urgent steps to restore Parliamentary life. The UAE is doing the same. I would recall that Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the kingdom's defense minister, told me in 1972 that there is an intention to establish a system of rule in the kingdom drawn from Islamic Shari'ah laws and based on the principle of "consultation" [shura]. What progress has been made with regard to these intentions?

[Answer] Political development in the kingdom is governed by the conditions in it as well as by the country's higher interests and not on the basis of outside considerations or as a reaction to them. We have studies as well as plans to develop the political institutions. They are ready to be implemented in accordance with the country's situation, needs and ability to absorb them. We do not believe in the policy of shortcuts.

[Question] The "secret economist" [as published] bulletin which was published about a month ago said that opinion within the Saudi family is divided regarding the line the government should follow: whether the trend toward the Syrian-Iraqi cooperation should continue--as Amir Fahd believes it should--or whether the trend should be toward Egypt and Sudan, as you personally call for.

[Answer] These are flights of fancy that deserve no comment. The kingdom's policy is to adhere to the collective Arab framework. Arab solidarity is the cornerstone of Saudi strategy. This nation can only unite on something worthwhile, God willing. It was natural that before concluding the talk the amir would ask my opinion about the Lebanese problem. It was as if he was resuming a discussion that we began 3 years ago.

I said: The strings of the Lebanese problem have become entangled with the strings of the Palestinian and Israeli problems as well as of other Arab and international problems. It is no longer possible to unravel the knot simply by pulling out the Palestinian string first. This is only possible if the Palestinian problem is solved in a manner satisfactory to the Palestinians.

The amir said: There is no doubt that the Lebanese problem has become complicated. I am the last to claim to have the cure for it. But do you not think that agreement among the Lebanese is the first step toward emerging from this vicious circle: The source of the problem is an internal Lebanese dispute and, therefore, ending this dispute is the ideal way to ending the crisis. As long as a major section of the Lebanese community feels that it is being wronged, all talk about sovereignty, entity and independence is merely theoretical. I do not understand the constant dispute about rebuilding the army considering that the Islamic factions have accepted the basic structural balance [within the army] between the various communities and this would insure that no one faction will dominate the other. I honestly believe that the intentions of Muslims are sincere and pure. Why then the insistence on the preservation of sectarian privileges that have been the cause of disputes?

I said: The Maronite fear. The Maronite fear of being engulfed in an Islamic sea.

He said: Even if this fear should lead to the destruction of Lebanon?

I said: This complex situation has existed since the establishment of the Lebanese state. The Palestinian presence has come to further complicate it. The situation becomes even more tragic when some people try to evade the truth even when it is of no avail to evade it, namely that Lebanon's destiny is linked to the fate of the Palestinian problem and nobody, neither the United States, nor the Soviet Union or any other world power, is any longer capable of preventing Lebanon from meeting this fate.

Do you believe, Your Highness the Amir, that the solution of the Palestinian problem is imminent?

As if he was going back to the beginning of the talk, he replied: Without solving the Palestinian problem there is no hope for stability not only in Lebanon but in the whole area. This was what we said to Harold Brown and what we continuously tell our American friends.

PAPER SAYS IRAN'S COMMUNISTS FOMENT CIASS WARFARE, SECESSION

LD051615 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The communists have begun to play their role in Iran. They are behind the bloody incidents in Kurdistan in an attempt to secede this region from the mother country. They were also behind the burning of the U.S. Consulate in Tabriz so as to deepen the political estrangement between the new Iranian regime and the United States. They are also behind the refusal by the oil industry workers to resume their work so that present world unrest resulting from the stoppage of Iranian oil shipments will continue.

Therefore, the communists are effectively helping to exacerbate the situation in Iran and prevent the country from attaining stability and returning to normal. They are thereby implementing Moscow's clear plan aimed at containing the Iranian revolution or maintaining the state of tension and disturbances as well as at pitting the political forces against each other.

Moscow's aim is also to encourage the secession of the various regions from the mother country so as to make it easier to control each one separately if it cannot contain the Iranian revolution as a whole.

Thus, a communist plan is being implemented in Iran the same way it was implemented in several other countries. The history of communism abounds with such tragic actions that aim to control and dominate the peoples' wealth and destinies.

There is no doubt that the nationalist forces in Iran are well aware of the communist objectives, especially since the Soviet Union is adjacent to their borders. They also realize that communism and Zionism have common thoughts and objectives although their methods may differ. Therefore, the destructive communist tide in Iran aims at instigating class warfare and encouraging secessionist trends. Such dangers must be faced with absolute firmness to insure that stability can be regained, that Iran will not become an arena of conflict and that the voices advocating secession, as has happened in Kurdistan and Azerbaijan and may happen in other regions, will not again be heard.

UAE

OIL MINISTER TO PROPOSE BLACKLISTING SOME OIL COMPANIES

JN040911 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 4 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 March--The INA correspondent here reports that the UAE oil minister, Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, will submit a proposal to the OPEC Consultative Council to blacklist a number of international oil companies for manipulating oil prices. He said Oil Minister 'Utaybah will propose to the conferences to be convened in Geneva on 26 March 1979 that these companies should be warned before dealings with them are suspended.

Several oil companies have increased the price of oil they buy from OPEC members, thus exploiting the shortage in the markets resulting from the stoppage in the flow of Iranian oil.

GUINEAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT TO ABU DHABI

JN050918 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0910 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived here this morning on a 3-day visit to the UAE. The Guinean president was welcomed by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and other senior officials.

Official Talks

JN061127 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0945 GMT 6 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 March--UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure began the first session of their official talks here this morning. The talks were attended on the UAE side by Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, Minister of Planning Sa'id Ahmad al-Ghabbash, ministers and senior officials. Attending on the Guinean side were Prime Minister Dr Louis Lansana Beavogui; Mamady Keita, minister of culture and education; Fily Sissoko, minister of foreign affairs; and the ministers of planning and economic cooperation, trade and Islamic affairs.

YEMEN--PDRY

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REPORTS YAR ATTACK ON PDRY TERRITORY

JN061244 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1236 GMT 6 Mar 79 JN

[Text] A responsible source in the PDRY Foreign Ministry has made the following statement: At a time when the PDRY has announced its commitment to the cease-fire decision, the Arab mediation decisions, and the Arab League Council resolutions, our forces in the Ad-Dali'-Qa'tabah axis were surprised by a very treacherous, intensive military attack from all directions, with all weapons.

In condemning this new military venture by the puppet San'a' regime's forces on our positions, we hold San'a' responsible for this attack. We would like to stress that we are still committed to the cease-fire decision.

RADIO ASSAILS SAUDI, U.S. ROLE IN DISPUTE

LD041728 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Following the violent overthrow of the shah's regime by the Iranian people's revolution and with the worsening crisis of the San'a' agent regime, its isolation from our Yemeni masses and the intensification of the latter's struggle led by the Democratic National Front [DNF] to restore the happy face of the 26 September revolution, the imperialists in the West and the reactionaries in our region have begun shouting about stability and security in the region. As events in the Yemeni arena develop and many areas fall into the hands of the revolutionary people's forces, those who hold the wealth of the region and those from the West who are plundering this wealth are hastening to bolster their unholy ally to help it confront the events taking place in the Yemeni arena. And now they are crying out about stability, their panic illustrated by their action of summoning and alerting their military forces and, with the agreement of American imperialism, sending weapons worth $400 million to the San'a' rulers. They have also hinted that American troops might be sent to defend their interests in the region.

It is clear to all that these hasty actions are aimed at damaging Democratic Yemen and committing aggression against it. The clashes between the DNF revolutionary people's forces and the San'a' regime are being used as a pretext to mount the aggression.

Although the events are taking place inside the Yemeni arena and not in anyone else's territory, the statement made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has portrayed events as if they were between the two parts of Yemen, thus exposing a bias on the part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as if it were speaking on behalf of the rulers of the northern part. Meanwhile, although Democratic Yemen was not the cause of the grave events in the northern part--indeed parts of its border areas have been subject to aggression by the troops of the San'a' rulers--it nevertheless welcomed the Arab mediation efforts and played its part in promoting stability in all parts of Yemen, which it stressed in the statement of the Council of Ministers issued last Thursday.

Because of its concern to promote the interests of the Yemeni people and thwart their enemies, who want to trade in blood, Democratic Yemen agreed to a cease-fire and to preparations for the withdrawal of the armed forces of the two parties to facilitate direct dialog between the two parts of Yemen to achieve unity.

In light of the results of the Arab efforts, it is regrettable that those claiming to be working for stability should inflame the heightened tension by alerting their armed forces. This is new and irrefutable proof of interference in the Yemeni people's internal affairs.

While calling for stability, we in Democratic Yemen refuse to take responsibility for political instability in our northern part. The San'a' regime is corrupt and [word indistinct]. It is pursuing a policy of repression and destruction and expelling villagers from their homes. That is why it does not enjoy the respect and recognition of the people.

The imperialist and reactionary circles are now pushing the region toward heightened tension so as to interfere in the internal affairs of Yemen by fanning the flames of destructive war between the two parts of our homeland. However, despite everything being hatched against our Yemeni people and despite the intentions of conspiracy and aggression against Democratic Yemen, our people will stand in a single rank in defense of their land and sovereignty and will repulse anyone attempting to commit aggression against their territory. The Yemeni people possess enough strength, determination, courage and heroism to make them capable of repelling all aggressors against their territory and those who wish to damage their revolutionary achievements and national sovereignty.

YEMEN--YAR

PDRY AIR RAIDS ON QA'TABAH REPORTED

JN061215 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1210 GMT 6 Mar 79 JN

[Text] The military spokesman of the general command of the armed forces has stated the following to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY: From 0930 today until now, aircraft of the Aden government have been raiding our defense positions in the border area of Qa'tabah. Thus, the Aden government is escalating its aggression against us and is continuing to show disregard for the initiative of our Arab brothers and the resolutions of the Arab League Council reached by the Arab foreign ministers at dawn today at the end of their meeting in Kuwait.

CARTER TELLS AS-SADAT OF ISRAELI ASSENT TO U.S. PROPOSALS

NC051617 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1612 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 March--MENA has learned that U.S. President Jimmy Carter contacted President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat by telephone this afternoon and informed him of the Israeli Government's agreement to the latest U.S. proposals regarding the peace process.

President Carter told President as-Sadat that the Israeli prime minister, Menahem Begin, contacted him by telephone a short while ago and notified him of the agreement. At the same time President Carter said that he will be receiving Menahem Begin in a few minutes regarding this.

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES CARTER TO VISIT ON 8 MAR

NC051732 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1731 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Washington, 5 March--In a statement issued here tonight the White House announced that U.S. President Jimmy Carter will visit Cairo Thursday.

It was also announced that Carter's visit to Egypt will continue until the evening of Saturday, 10 March, when he will leave Egypt for Israel on a similar visit. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will accompany Carter on this visit. President Carter is expected to leave Washington for Cairo Wednesday evening. He will arrive in Cairo Thursday afternoon.

White House officials do not expect that President Carter will undertake a shuttle diplomacy, nor do they know when he will return to Washington. White House officials say that Carter's talks in Egypt and Israel will concentrate on the peace process, regional security and bilateral questions.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT WELCOMES CARTER VISIT

NC052215 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2145 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 March--The Arab Republic of Egypt officially announced tonight its extremely warm welcome for U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visit Thursday. Egypt has affirmed that President Carter's decision to make this visit reflects the principles and values which President Carter and the U.S. administration uphold in assuming full responsibility for establishing a just peace in the Middle East.

In a statement issued by an official spokesman at the Presidency tonight, Egypt affirmed that during the visit the Egyptian people will express their extremely warm appreciation and gratitude to President Carter for his stand.

The statement made by the official spokesman at the Presidency reads:

President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today received with great pleasure the news of President Jimmy Carter's visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. This brave decision reflects the values and principles which the U.S. President upholds in assuming this responsibility.

It also affirms the U.S. assumption of its responsibilities as a full partner for the sake of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

President Carter has (?overcome) many difficulties and removed many obstacles since President as-Sadat's peace initiative in 1977. By this visit President Carter is continuing his constructive efforts for the sake of peace.

The people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, who appreciate this effort by President Carter and his administration, will express to his excellency during the visit their extremely warm appreciation and gratitude. They will also affirm that this effort will succeed in establishing a just peace and in consolidating the relations of friendship which link the Egyptian and American peoples.

BRZEZINSKI, ATHERTON ARRIVE IN CAIRO 6 MAR

NC061230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 6 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 March--The U.S. President's adviser for national security affairs, Zbignew Brzezinski, and the U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, Alfred Atherton, arrived in Cairo this afternoon to make preparations for President Jimmy Carter's visit to Cairo, which will begin on Thursday. Some 65 U.S. officials for security affairs, protocol and communications arrived on the same plane.

Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal also arrived on the same plane with Brzezinski and Atherton to be in Cairo to receive President Jimmy Carter on his arrival.

It has been learned that Brzezinski and Atherton are carrying the recent U.S. proposals, and that they will meet with President Anwar as-Sadat at 1700 today.

President Carter will be accompanied on his visit to Egypt by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

PAPERS COMMENT ON CARTER'S DECISION TO VISIT MIDDLE EAST

NC060830 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Mar 79 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Cairo papers this morning highlight on their front pages and under banner headlines the news of the visit of U.S. President Jimmy Carter to Cairo this Thursday. They say that the U.S. President will hold important political discussions with President Anwar as-Sadat on the development of the current discussions to achieve a peace agreement.

The papers point out that President Carter will spend 2 days in Cairo and will leave for Israel on Saturday evening for more discussions with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The papers refer in this regard to the announcement by the Arab Republic of Egypt last night that it very much welcomes President Carter's visit on Thursday. They highlight Egypt's affirmation in the statement issued by the official spokesman at the Presidency that President Carter's decision to make this visit reflects the principles and values which President Carter and the U.S. administration uphold in assuming full responsibility for establishing a just peace in the Middle East.

In its editorial entitled "Will the Bells Ring Out?" AL-AHRAM writes today: Egypt is making a thorough and comprehensive study of the recent developments in the Middle East discussions. It is clear from these discussions that President Carter has been eager to direct these discussions toward the goal which the world hopes to achieve: the establishment of stability in this area. The world's economy, civilization and progress is linked with the extent of stability prevailing in this area.

The paper blames Begin's obdurate position for the failure to reach the desired goal. It says: President Carter has not despaired and is continuing his efforts. He submitted new proposals, which have not been disclosed. New contacts were held and it was announced as a result of these contacts that the U.S. President will come to Cairo.

AL-AHRAM stresses that Egypt is seeking peace and that it has adopted it as a strategy which it has tried to achieve in many ways including the February initiative, the 1973 war and the peace initiative. It says: There is nobody who doubts Egypt's intentions to achieve peace. However, it seeks peace which is based on right and justice. It seeks a peace which will be born to grow, and spread its shade over all the area and which will find people to adopt and seek it. It does not seek a stillborn peace which will remain lifeless despite the passage of time.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: Egypt desires this peace. If every sincere person prays that the bells ring out announcing the birth of this peace, then all sincere people will undoubtedly realize who is responsible for the failure to realize their aspirations for which they have long prayed since President as-Sadat visited Jerusalem and the signs of peace began looming.

In an editorial, AL-AKHBAR today points out that the peace discussions were revived at the last moment after having been completely deadlocked during the meetings between U.S. President Carter and Menahem Begin. The paper notes that all sources said that the discussions between the two men had ended in failure. Egypt was scheduled to define its position and announce it today on the basis of these discussions.

AL-AKHBAR adds: Just as happened at the Camp David summit, the situation changed suddenly. President Carter held an urgent meeting with the congress leaders to discuss the situation in the Middle East in light of his discussions with Menahem Begin. The White House then issued an official statement saying that during his fourth meeting with Begin, the U.S. President submitted U.S. proposals on solving some of the existing differences obstructing the establishment of peace. He announced that Begin approved the U.S. proposals and that he communicated them to his goverrment for endorsement. President Carter then contacted President as-Sadat in the evening.

The paper asks: What are the U.S. proposals which the U.S. President presented to get the situation moving and which Menahem Begin approved? It says: These proposals have been shrouded in complete secrecy. After the White House meeting, Senator Jacob Javits said that the new proposals are based on U.S. guarantees to implement the peace agreement, if concluded.

AL-AKHBAR adds: In the meantime, an official of the U.S. State Department has stated that the new proposals are not connected with any U.S. military presence in the Middle East or with security guarantees by the United States to Israel. The paper explains that the Israeli Cabinet endorsed these proposals and conveyed its approval to Begin in Washington.

The paper goes on: It is natural and essential that Egypt should reassess its position in the light of these recent moves, as Dr Mustafa Khalil said. It refers to the statement by the prime minister in which he said: It is premature to declare our position before the full dimensions of the situation become clear to us.

AL-AKHBAR says President Carter's decision to visit Egypt and Israel has come as a great surprise to all political and diplomatic quarters in the world, compelling them to reconsider their evaluation of and expectations for the situation. It was a great unexpected surprise.

In conclusion the paper emphasizes that President Carter's visit to Cairo and Israel will raise much speculation and anticipation in political quarters.

COMMENTATOR ASSAILS BEGIN'S ANTIPEACE STRATEGY

LD051352 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Amin Basyumi commentary]

[Excerpts] The peace negotiations are passing through a crucial stage, while an extremely perplexed world is following the stubborn positions of Menahem Begin and his strange insistence on obstructing any genuine move toward peace.

What does Menahem Begin want? Or, perhaps it is more relevant for us to ask: What does Menahem Begin not want? What is now beyond any doubt is that Menahem Begin does not want peace. And, if the October War and the subsequent peace initiative have given the Middle East problem a considerable push toward a just peace, Menahem Begin feels that, against his will, he is moving in this same direction. This is why he takes advantage of every possible occasion to torpedo any initiative to move forward and to obstruct any genuine effort from any side to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. And, failing this, he tries to arrive at peace in accordance with his obsolete schemes--the product of his well-known past and his dreams of expansion and greed regarding Arab lands. And, failing all this, Begin wants to let the negotiations turn in a vicious circle until the Arabs, or the world, have had enough.

Begin could thus gain precious time which, he thinks, will take him nearer to the date of the U.S. presidential elections when conditions will favor Zionist pressure on the decision-making centers in the United States. This is the broad line of Menahem Begin's strategy for moving toward peace, or, more precisely, for moving against peace.

Begin knows quite well that Egypt, since it began moving in the direction of peace, has been seeking a comprehensive peace that would liberate all occupied Arab territories and secure the rights of the Palestinian people. He also knows that Egypt is not prepared to bargain on these issues. Yet despite this, Begin insists on repeating his demand for the signing of a separate agreement with Egypt and insists that Sinai not be linked with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

As a matter of fact, Begin brandishes this slogan not in the hope of getting Egypt's approval--for he knows above anyone else that this will never occur--but in the hope of throwing a flaming ball in the Arab arena that will burn any hands or feet catching it. [as heard]

KHALIL DISCUSSES GOVERNMENT POSITION ON PEACE

NC051310 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1253 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 March--At a press conference he held here today, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil declared that Egypt has received some reports about the peace process and it will reassess its position in the light of these reports. He said that Egypt is expecting to receive further reports on the situation within the next 48 hours. These reports will be communicated by the U.S. ambassador in Cairo.

At his press conference, which he held at the president's resthouse in Al-Haram and which was attended by the correspondents of international and Arab newspapers and news agencies in Egypt, Dr Khalil affirmed that Egypt presented no new elements during the second Camp David talks. He said that Egypt's official position is firm and has not changed since the start of the talks between President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Dr Khalil began his press conference at 1340 today with a brief statement in which he said:

As you know, President Anwar as-Sadat received the U.S. ambassador in Cairo, who conveyed to him some reports from the United States. We are expecting additional reports from the United States. We are expecting additional reports within the next 24 to 48 hours. In the light of these reports President as-Sadat will reassess the Egyptian position.

Dr Khalil said: I would like to add that our position in the peace talks and our insistence on the need to sign a peace treaty is still the same. We also announce that we have presented no new elements during the second Camp David discussions and that our position has not changed since the start of the talks between President as-Sadat and Begin.

Dr Khalil then answered questions put to him by Arab and foreign correspondents. The following is the text of the press conference:

Question: Mr Prime Minister, President as-Sadat said yesterday that he would have much to say today on the basis of the message he received from President Carter yesterday. He then had a telephone conversation with President Carter and received new U.S. proposals. Has anything changed now or did President as-Sadat know about these American proposals last night?

Answer: You are trying to say that there are new American proposals and that President as-Sadat has changed his position. I did not say that, but I did say that the U.S. ambassador submitted a report and that President as-Sadat naturally cannot make any statement before getting a full picture in the light of the latest developments. Furthermore, Begin is at present meeting with President Carter and it would be premature to make any statement before we have the complete general picture.

Question: But the situation has changed since President as-Sadat spoke to us yesterday. Is this correct?

Answer: I cannot say that the situation has changed. This is because our position is firm. We seek peace and we still adhere to the two Camp David agreements. Moreover, the agreement which we have recently reached at Camp David differs in no way from our previous position on the treaty between us and on the situation in Gaza and the West Bank.

Question: Is President as-Sadat still thinking of going to Washington?

Answer: Well, in fact I do not now know whether or not this will happen. The president will make his decision after he receives the report within the next 24 or 48 hours.

Question: My first question was whether President as-Sadat has been invited to visit Washington. My second question is: Can you give me an idea about these proposals? The Israelis have described these new proposals of President Carter as being important, noteworthy and different. How would the Egyptian side describe these proposals?

Answer: Regarding the first question, you know that this question is premature. The second question is as follows: Has President Carter submitted the proposals to President as-Sadat? Well, I am not prepared to comment on this.

Question: Can you give us a description of these new proposals?

Answer: No. I cannot.

Question: Mr Prime Minister, you have spoken of receiving more reports about the new proposals.

Answer: I did not say about the new proposals.

Question: I beg your pardon. Have you been asked personally to do anything? Have the Egyptians been asked to do anything or to give some reply, a reply to anything you heard in Washington, or are you just waiting to receive something?

Answer: Well, we have received a report. It was submitted to us by the U.S. ambassador, but there is no exchange of views at present.

Question: Mr Prime Minister, according to reports we received from Tel Aviv, the Israeli Cabinet is discussing certain proposals. In the final analysis, do we have the same kind of proposals that had already been submitted to the Israelis, or are they discussing other proposals?

Answer: Well, I do not really know because I do not have the agenda of the Israeli Cabinet. We cannot compare what we have received with what you already know. It is therefore difficult to answer your question.

Question: Mr Prime Minister, it had been reported that President as-Sadat would make a statement today, but he has not done so. Could you tell me why he has not issued the statement as planned?

Answer: Yes, because, as I have told you, he received a report today. As the U.S. ambassador said, there will be other reports within the next day or two. As you see, it is premature for President as-Sadat to make any statement at present. It is better to wait until he receives all the information and assesses the entire situation. Then he will be able to answer all your questions.

Question: Mr Prime Minister, could you tell us if the American side has conveyed proposals to the Egyptian side, proposals which, it is said, are the same as the ones submitted to the Israelis? Could you shed light on this?

Answer: No comment on this.

Question: Could you tell us if the psychological atmosphere has improved or not as a result of these proposals?

Answer: You know that President as-Sadat always says that he is optimistic and he is still optimistic, but whether the psychological atmosphere is gloomy or has changed all depends on what happens within the next 24 or 48 hours. [end of answer]

President as-Sadat received U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts at 1130 today at the pyramids resthouse. The meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz. After the 70-minute meeting, the U.S. ambassador was asked if there was good news. He said: There is always good news. He added that the Egyptian prime minister would talk to reporters. Asked if any Egyptian official will go to Washington again, Eilts said that the prime minister would make a statement. President as-Sadat later met for 1 hour with Mubarak, Khalil and Al-Baz.

GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO UN NAMIBIA FORCE

NC051501 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1438 GMT 5 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 March--Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil today stated that Egypt has offered to contribute to the United Nations forces which will oversee Namibia's scheduled independence next September.

In a statement to MENA, the ambassador added that contacts are underway in this respect between Egypt and the UN secretary general. The ambassador noted that Egypt had also expressed this desire at the meetings of the African Ministerial Council in Nairobi recently, while the conference was discussing Namibia. He added: The council responded to the application which Egypt submitted to the first session. Egypt then demanded that Rhodesia's aggression against Zambia and Angola be condemned. Egypt made its demand in keeping with its constant concern for all African issues.

It is worth noting that Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil led Egypt's delegation to the African foreign ministers conference which wound up its work in the Kenyan capital last Friday.

COMMENTATOR ACCUSES MOSCOW OF INCITING YEMENI CONFLICT

LD041316 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD

[Samir 'Abd at-Tawwab commentary]

[Excerpts] The Arab foreign ministers will discuss, at their conference in Kuwait today, the question of the armed clashes between the two Yemeni states.

Undoubtedly, the Arab foreign ministers have before them the full details of the dimensions of the conflict in the Arabian Peninsula and the direct causes which led to the recent explosion between the two Yemeni states and the foreign forces manipulating the conflict to serve their own interests.

Undoubtedly, too, the Arab foreign ministers have before them reports and studies which will enable them to discern the facts and easily see the link between the conflict in Yemen and the events taking place around us in various parts of the world, whether within the Arab area itself or in areas around it, such as the Horn of Africa for example, or even in Indochina and other parts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. All these areas are aflame with developments. But all these developments are linked together, despite the distances dividing them, for the moving forces are one and the plot is one. Unless the Arab nation rises up to the situation, the flame of these events will threaten its future and wealth.

It is certain that the studies and reports which the Arab foreign ministers will be carrying with them show and prove that the situation in the Middle East could serve the interests of the Arab area following the recent developments in the areas close to it, particularly if the Arabs were to make good use of their political, economic and other capabilities. These capabilities are taken into consideration and fall within the calculations of the world circles. The Arab states are called upon to define the effective way that these capabilities can be used, provided that their calculations are equally well studied and precise.

The situation in the Middle East could serve the interests of the Arab bloc if an objective and honest evaluation of Soviet designs in the Arab area and throughout the Third World countries were to be made. Such an objective evaluation will greatly help those countries which are still deceived by Moscow's policy, particularly its policies in regard to our pan-Arab liberation causes. Undoubtedly, this evaluation will reveal the dimensions of Soviet scheming in the area, which are directed in the first place at the creation of an atmosphere similar to that in the Indochina region. The Arab region is witnessing a bloody and bitter strife and only God knows to what extent it will go and the results that will ensue from it.

It is evident that Soviet policy exploits inter-Arab contradictions to penetrate the Arab area. Indeed, we would not be far from the truth if we were to say that Moscow is behind all these inter-Arab contradictions, particularly its suspiciously strange attitude toward the cause of [words indistinct] and the rights of the Palestinian people and its attitude toward the inter-Arab differences which exist between one Arab neighbor and another, and in particular between San'a' and Aden. What explanation can there be for this conflict between the two neighboring brotherly states other than its being a direct result of Moscow's influence and control of the regime now ruling Aden.

Within the framework of the Yemeni conflict, the Arab foreign ministers will have to discuss the Soviet role in influencing some Arab regimes with a view to creating a deep rift in the body of the Arab nation which would be impossible to remedy in future.

Finally, it is certain that the Arab foreign ministers will take all these matters into consideration today, for their pan-Arab duty and the trust laid on the shoulders of Arab diplomacy demands that they find practical solutions not only to the armed conflict in Yemen but also to uproot all causes of conflicts from the Arab soil.

NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARYAL CONCLUDES VISIT

Meeting with Hammadi

JN031125 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GMT 3 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 3 March--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and Nepalese Foreign Minister Krishna Raj Aryal met here today to discuss the development of bilateral relations.

During their meeting the two ministers touched upon issues related to the nonalined movement and ways of achieving success for the nonalined summit conference scheduled to be held in Havana in September 1979.

Political issues of common interest and the situation in the Arab region, Asia and Indochina were also discussed. Dr Hammadi accepted Aryal's invitation to visit Nepal. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

4 March Departure

JN041120 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 March--Nepalese Foreign Minister Krishna Raj Aryal and his accompanying delegation left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq.

Aryal said that his talks with Iraqi officials dealt with mutual cooperation between Iraq and Nepal in the common interest of the people of the two countries. He said that they also reviewed the present world situation, particularly the situation in Southeast Asia.

Joint Press Statement

JN051703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 March--Iraq and Nepal have called for taking further steps to strengthen the unity and solidarity of the nonalined countries. The two countries agreed on complete cooperation to bring success to the coming sixth nonalined conference, and to the seventh nonalined conference which will be held in the Iraqi capital in 1982.

This was contained in a joint Iraqi-Nepalese press statement issued today on the visit to Iraq by Nepalese Foreign Affairs Minister Krishna Raj Aryal. The statement noted the reception by President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Vice President Taha Muhui ad-Din Ma'ruf of the Nepalese minister.

The statement pointed out that the talks which the Nepalese minister of foreign affairs held with his Iraqi counterpart, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, dealt with issues of common concern and regional and international issues, including questions concerning the Arab area.

Both sides stressed their total support for the struggle waged by the Palestinian people to regain their national rights, including their right to determine their future and to establish their independent state on their land. The Nepalese minister of foreign affairs reaffirmed his country's stand that a just and permanent peace can only be achieved through immediate and complete withdrawal from all Arab territory occupied in 1967.

The Iraqi and Nepalese foreign ministers expressed their desire to broaden fields of cooperation to insure stronger relations between the governments and peoples of the two countries on the basis of respect for sovereignty, equality and nonintervention in internal affairs.

Both foreign ministers paid special attention to the problems of the developing countries whose economic conditions are deteriorating. They stressed the need to take effective steps to achieve a new international economic system based on equality, justice and progress for all. They stressed the need to exert coordinated and effective efforts to implement the UN General Assembly resolutions in its special sessions related to the establishment of a new economic order.

The Nepalese minister of foreign affairs explained to his Iraqi counterpart Nepal's proposal on the declaration of a zone of peace. The Iraqi minister expressed Iraq's total support for this proposal. The two ministers agreed that the proposal will be a basic factor contributing to strengthening peace in the area and in the world in general. They expressed their conviction that the concept of a zone of peace is in complete harmony with the United Nations principles and with the basic spirit of the nonalined movement.

The Iraqi foreign minister explained to his Nepalese counterpart the decision Iraq and Syria have made concerning their merger in light of the Joint National Action Charter. He also explained the results of the latest Baghdad Arab summit conference.

The Nepalese minister extended an invitation to Dr Sa'dun Hammadi to visit the Kingdom of Nepal.

AID TO LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT REPORTEDLY REDUCED

LD051333 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 2 Mar 79 p 6 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Text] The Lebanese leftist movement is approaching certain Arab countries that contribute to financing the movement with a view to stabilizing the amounts being paid and seriously discuss increasing those amounts to enable the movement to meet the requirements of the coming critical period.

At the same time as it was announced that Walid Junblatt would lead a delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to Iraq, it was revealed that the Iraqi Government has halved the amount it is paying to the Lebanese political parties as a contribution to their expenses.

This decision affects the parties' activities,and it has therefore been agreed to deal with the matter quickly through a direct approach to the Iraqi Government. It is being reiterated that the reason for reducing the aid is the desire of Iraq and Syria to devise a unified strategy for the two countries.

MENA: AL-QADHDHAFI ACCUSED OF AIDING IRAQI FUGITIVES

NC041344 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 4 March--The Iraqi newspaper AR-RASID has accused Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of aiding Iraqi secessionist fugitives and of opposing Iraqi-Syrian unity. The paper calls on the Iraqi Government to resist Al-Qadhdhafi's stand. The paper describes Al-Qadhdhafi's declaration of his support for the unitary relations between Iraq and Syria as mock support and says that his anti Iraqi-Syrian unity stand is due to several reasons, including domestic factors and outside motives.

It is worth mentioning that the newspaper AR-RASID is published irregularly. It was the first unofficial Iraqi paper that initiated an intensive campaign against the Iraqi Communist Party last year.

AMMAN RADIO COMMENTS ON CURRENT IMPASSE IN MIDEAST TALKS

JN052318 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary: "Who is Hinting at Exerting Pressure, Begin or Carter?"]

[Text] The United States has undertaken to negotiate with Israel on behalf of Egypt at this stage. Egypt declares that the documents and ideas which the United States is presenting constitute a joint Egyptian-U.S. stand that Washington put forth in the name of the two countries. The Israeli prime minister went to Washington with the Israeli Cabinet's decision not to relinquish any of the Israeli demands embodied in the initial formula of the Camp David agreements in a vague form that allows Israel to interpret them and achieve its demands through them at will. Furthermore, Menahem Begin departed for Washington leaving behind him unanimous agreement between the supporters and opposition rarely seen in Israel except in wars and crises. This in itself implies special significance.

Having failed to achieve any new results, the U.S. Government has discussed the situation with congressmen from both parties. The same applies to Begin, who realizes that Israel has influence in the Congress that the U.S. President himself wishes his government had. Moreover, Begin has begun a campaign to justify the arrogance of Israeli policy and to interpret it in a way that hinders peace. He has also insinuated that he will begin an information campaign among American Jews starting in New York. The campaign is aimed at making clear the gravity of what the Carter administration is demanding from Israel from the Israeli point of view, thus subjecting the Carter administration to an early campaign by the Zionist information media, its various forces and supporters to make the coming election campaign more difficult. In other words, Begin is brandishing the ability of Israel and Zionism to reduce the chances of the reelection of the U.S. President. For this reason and in view of the seriousness at this stage in the life of the current U.S. administration, President Carter's administration has only a silk glove and sincere prayers to face Begin's arrogance. For the same reason, this administration cannot expose Israel's stands hampering peace. This same stand suggests a long wait which the Egyptian president tried to break through his initiative. This same stand may suggest thinking things over on the part of Egypt once the results of the initiative and its dangers for the Arab area have become clear. It also suggests that the Arabs must begin to exert efforts to restore Egypt to its natural position in the Arab march.

There has been more talk of late in the Egyptian information media about Arab solidarity and Arab fraternity. This has significance. Israel's stand will inevitably encourage the Arab nation to hold a dialog with Egypt as long as the objective is to stop capitulation, bilateral solutions and the Camp David stage and its deviation from the issue and return the peace march to the right path; this will occur as long as American democracy is at the mercy of the influence of small groups, despite the fact that these groups represent racial standpoints contradictory to the spirit of democracy.

Any talk about a positive U.S. role ending Israel's occupation and the conflict commensurate with international law and the legitimate rights of peoples is subject to test and questioning. This test in itself--with the quick results it gave during the 2 years of the initiative--is a useful conclusion to rectify the Arab vision in the future. The Arabs may for scores of years have panted for peace through the Arab papers to eventually reach the same results, namely, the closed Israeli door in the face of justice and peace. Will Arab action take advantage of the favorable opportunities after Egypt has tried so much and after the world has seen this political comedy and fully understood it and after the world, primarily the United States, is sure that waging war for Israel and consequently endangering the interests of the world--Israel claims it protects them--is easier than returning the land it occupied from the Arabs in 1967 to its legitimate owners?

ALGERIA

PRICE OF CRUDE OIL TO BE RENEGOTIATED IN ALGIERS

LD032005 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Buyers of crude oil and Algerian condensate have been summoned to take part in Algiers, starting today, in discussions with the appropriate SONATRACH officials aimed at a readjustment of contractual selling prices starting on 1 April 1979. It must be pointed out that the mechanism of SONATRACH sales contracts, which are long-term contracts and the structure of which was adopted 5 years ago, provides for price renegotiations at quarterly intervals.

LIBYA

JALLUD SPEAKS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF 'PEOPLE'S AUTHORITY'

LD031611 Tripoli JANA in English 0835 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Mar 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud attended the great celebration organised today at the Green Square in Tripoli on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Jamahiriyah and the establishment of the people's authority.

Staff Major Jallud delivered a speech at the celebration affirming that the resolution of separating the revolution from the authority issued by the General People's Congress in the Jamahiriyah places us before great and serious responsibilities. It also holds the masses responsible for preaching and calling for this throughout the world, until the forms of traditional governments in the world vanish and people hold authority to administer their affairs by themselves.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud affirmed that the people of the Jamahiriyah who have become free will not be intimidated by conspiracies or threats, as they were not intimidated by the military bases at the outbreak of the Great 1st of September Revolution. Those military bases did not prevent the outbreak of the Great 1st of September Revolution.

He added, "The shahanshah military power, too, did not intimidate the great Iranian people. Neither did it prevent the outbreak of the Iranian people's revolution. Furthermore, it did not protect the agent shah from the wrath of the masses."

In his speech delivered at the Green Square on the occasion of the second anniversary of the proclamation of the Jamahiriyah and the establishment of the people's authority, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud affirmed that we shall continue to raise the slogan of Arab unity and struggle for it.

He said, "We will step on all capitulatory agreements plotted at present betweeen the racist Zionist enemy and the Egyptian regime against the Arab nation." Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud indicated that without Arab unity the Arab nation will never assert herself. This unity will be achieved, with God's will, through the people's revolution. Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud affirmed that the Libyan Arab people who have achieved a final triumph over all suppressive dictatorial tools, and over all oppressive bases of exploitation, will be victorious in all their battles. They will mock and scorn all their domestic and external enemies.

He added, "No power in the world can stand before free nations. The Libyan Arab people will teach lessons to all the enemies of freedom, enemies of the Jamahiriyah era, and enemies of the people's authority."

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud announced that the 2nd of March is to the Libyan Arab people second in importance after the Great 1st of September because the Great 1st of September has paved the way for the Libyan Arab people to march starting from Zuwarah historic speech to the 2nd of March when the Jamahiriyah and the people's authority were declared in the city of Cauro in Sabhah. Staff Major Jallud called upon the revolutionary forces to work earnestly and to mobilize potentials until the dictum wealth and power in the hands of the people is completely achieved and the people's authority is consolidated.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud pointed to the capitulatory treasonous treaty between Egypt and (Israel) and the concern of President Carter to speed up its signing, then the transference of the five Egyptian army divisions to the Jamahiriyah borders. He affirmed that power and muscle flexing will never intimidate the Libyan Arab people who will continue to call for the people's revolution and the revolution of true Islam.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud announced that the Libyan Arab people are capable of repulsing any aggression against their freedom and revolution. In the speech he delivered this evening in Green Square on the occasion of the second anniversary of the proclamation of the Jamahiriyah and the establishment of the people's authority he said, "Threats, muscle-flexing, (F-15) and (F-16) planes, destroyers, and warships will not affect the Libyan Arab people because they now possess wealth, authority, and arms. They are capable of defeating the strongest power in the world."

Staff Major''Abd as-Salam Jallud stressed that the Jamahiriyah will continue to call for Arab unity. "It will not retreat from leading the new Islamic awakening. It will not give up its role in the liberation movement being witnessed by the Arab world, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, because this role is connected with the Great 1st of September Revolution." He added that "threats will only increase our persistence in continuing to face our responsibilities, carry out our historic and civilization role, and in constructing socialism and people's authority."

Staff Major Jallud said: "We feel satisfied and proud when we view that the people's revolution has started to follow its path in the world and that the producers' revolution has started to spread throughout the Western world, in France and Belgium." He pointed out that the path to the masses era is the people's revolution and what took place in Iran is plain evidence of this. When the people's masses confronted the forces of the shah and triggered off the people's revolution, the shah fled and the Islamic republic has been established in Iran.

He said that the victory of the producers and hard workers will lead to the establishment of the Jamahiriyah's authority in the world.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud affirmed that what the Libyan Arab people reap today is the outcome of an organised and revolutionary work which was sown and the first brick of which was laid down by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution, in 1959 until victory was achieved on the Great 1st of September, 1969 and the people's authority was achieved.

He said that the declaration of the document of the people's authority in March, 1977 is an embodiment of the fruit of the Libyan people's struggle and holy war (jihad) throughout the generations and it forms a vanguard to the groups of martyrs who died in Al-Hani and Gerdabiyah and in the battles of Al-Jebel al-Akhdar and Benghazi.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud pointed to the greatness of today's celebration. He said, "The second anniversary of the proclamation of the jamahiriyah corresponds with another transformation; it corresponds with the extraordinary session of the General People's Congress, in which the most serious and historic resolution was taken, that is the separation of the revolution from authority." He added that this historic resolution belongs solely to the Great 1st of September Revolution. With this resolution the final picture of the people's authority has been completed.

AT-TURAYKI RECEIVES PDRY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

LD021854 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1718 GMT 2 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 2 March, JANA--Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, received this morning Lt Col Ahmad Salim 'Ubayd, deputy chief of staff in the PDRY. They discussed during the meeting the situation in North Yemen where the forces of imperialism and reaction are trying to deal a blow to progressive forces in the PDRY and the Arab Peninsula after the defeat of imperialism in Iran with the eruption of the Islamic popular revolution.

Lieutenant Colonel 'Ubayd arrived in Tripoli last night for a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

YAR PRESIDENT'S ENVOY ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 3 MAR

LD031430 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hammudah Muhammad Baydar, personal envoy of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the YAR, this morning arrived in Tripoli. He was welcomed at the airport by a representative of the Foreign Secretariat.

TURKISH COMMERCE MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 3 MAR

LD031910 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 3 March 1979, JANA--Teoman Koprululer, the Turkish minister of commerce, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during which he will attend the opening of the 17th Tripoli international fair. The Turkish minister and the delegation accompanying him were welcomed at Tripoli International Airport by brother Abu Bakr ash-Sharif, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy; the deputy secretary of the committee; the director general of fairs; and the Turkish ambassador to the Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to a JANA reporter, the Turkish minister expressed his happiness at visiting the Jamahiriyah and lauded the relations existing between the Jamahiriyah and Turkey. He said that the recent visit of the prime minister of Turkey to the Jamahiriyah had deep effects on the strengthening of relations existing between the Jamahiriyah and Turkey. The Turkish minister hailed the (?assistance) of the Jamahiriyah to Turkey and stressed that relations between the Arab-Libyan and Turkish peoples would grow stronger day after day.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON SAHARA, RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA

LD051000 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 5 March, SNA--Cheikhna Ould Mohamed Laghdaf, the Mauritanian foreign minister, has affirmed his country's readiness to hold talks with all parties concerned with the Saharan question at any time and at any place in order to reach a peaceful solution.

But, he added, the present conditions are not favorable and we are awaiting the formation of the new Algerian Cabinet.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-MADINAH, published here today, he said Mauritania had called for a plebiscite in the Saharan part of Mauritania but the POLISARIO refused.

Laghdaf declared that he is optimistic about the solution of the Saharan problem. He added that the situation is now at a standstill and that no mediation is taking place.

In this regard it was reported yesterday that France is planning to make an initiative to solve the dispute over the Western Sahara. Laghdaf said that the formation of the new Algerian Cabinet will serve as a catalyst in the quest for peace in the Arab Maghreb.

Speaking of his country's relations with Morocco and Algeria, he said we will shortly begin to lay the foundation for diplomatic relations with Algeria as a first step toward the improvement of relations between Mauritania and Algeria and the paving of the way for a meeting between the Mauritanian and Algerian presidents. As for Mauritania's relations with Morocco, he said they were excellent and were improving further. He said there were no differences of opinion between the two countries on the issues under discussion. Laghdaf pointed out that military coordination between his country and Morocco was continuing and that the Moroccan forces will gradually withdraw following the completion of the training of the Mauritanian forces which will replace them. He expected the withdrawal of the Moroccan forces from Mauritania to be completed within the current year.

Speaking of the situation in Mauritania, he denied strongly that there were any internal troubles there, adding that there is nothing to cause concern over the unity of Mauritani and the unity of the factions which comprise its people.

MOROCCO

HASSAN REAFFIRMS LEGITIMACY OF GOVERNMENT RULE IN SAHARA

LD031404 [Editorial Report LD] Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic at 1140 GMT on 3 March carries a live relay of a 15-minute speech by King Hassan II delivered on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of his accession to the throne. The radio does not specify where Hassan is speaking.

Hassan begins by speaking about economic policy, which is aimed at achieving a steady improvement in the balance of trade and payments. He says:

"Our aim has been to evaluate interconnection between Moroccan development and the harsh economic lessons which (?face) the world today and which are characterized by the big escalation in the prices of energy and imported manufactured goods. The main objectives of our new start are not only aimed at a steady improvement in the trade balance and that of payments but also aimed at limiting the budget (?deficit)."

Hassan goes on to say that efforts are being continued to achieve democracy, and to enable democratic institutions to function in such a way that the administration of public affairs becomes the task of every citizen. He says participation is essential for democracy, and that the future of Morocco is the joint concern of all. He points out that democracy imposes duties on all, and that all should respect democracy and carry out these duties in full.

After noting the government's efforts to improve education, King Hassan goes on to deal with the Sahara issue as follows:

"Dear people, we recovered within the framework of legitimacy and international laws our Sahara, which had remained after the country's independence under the yoke of colonialism. The legal nature of what we had done is not disputable. However, there are those who dispute our right and this is having various consequences for our country.

"Our soil, dear people, has been subjected to repeated aggressions and our royal armed forces have repulsed them with courage and success, inflicting heavy losses on the aggressor in men and equipment. We have already announced our will to use the right of pursuit, a natural right for every sovereign state whose borders or soil are attacked. Up to this hour we [word indistinct] not to exercise this right and this is not because we believe that to resort to war is the final stage but because of our firm conviction that the legitimacy of our right will inevitably win recognition and impose itself on all, and this is the course of the continued efforts which have been made to this end. It is [word indistinct] our right is legitimate. Its fate will be success and the desired victory."

King Hassan then goes on to pay tribute to his father and predecessor, Muhammad V, and concludes by calling on God to grant success and happiness to the Moroccan people.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MAURITANIA TO DISCUSS WITHDRAWAL

JN041831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 4 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Rabat, 4 March--The INA correspondent here has learned that a high-level Moroccan military delegation left for Mauritania during the last 2 days. The delegation will hold talks with members of the Mauritanian Military Committee for National Salvation on arrangements to withdraw the Moroccan military forces which have been in Mauritania since 1975.

It is noteworthy that the Mauritanian president, Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, had this month requested the withdrawal of the forces, which are estimated at 8,000 soldiers.

MINISTER BOUTALEB RECEIVES ZAIRIAN, USSR AMBASSADORS

LD031434 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rabat--Abdelhadi Boutaleb, the Moroccan minister of state for information, received Lombo Lo Mangamanga, Zairian ambassador to Rabat, on Friday. The meeting concerned the general situation in Africa and the exemplary relations existing between Morocco and Zaire.

Abdelhadi Boutaleb also received the Soviet ambassador to Rabat, Yevgeniy Nersesov. The meeting focussed on bilateral relations in general, and cooperation in the information field, the exchange of journalists between both countries and in particular on the eventual signing of an agreement between the MAGHREB ARAB PRESS agency and the Soviet NOVOSTI agency.

The Soviet diplomat stressed the fruitful cooperation between Morocco and the USSR in various fields and expressed his wish to further strengthen Moroccan-Soviet friendship.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE IN KHARTOUM

JN051900 [Editorial Report JN] Khartoum SUNA in Arabic at 1430 GMT on 5 March carries a 2,300-word address delivered by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri at what is presumably the opening session of the Arab labor conference in Khartoum on 5 March.

Numayri talks about the divisions imposed on the Arab nation in the forties and fifties and emphasizes the importance of Arab solidarity. He underlines the need for self-reliance and the proper exploitation of the Arabs' economic capabilities, and says: "You are meeting here today as leaders who plan for labor, represented by ministers; leaders responsible for labor, represented by trade unions; and leaders of invested capital, represented by employers. This is a unique formula that is commensurate with the needs of our nation at this stage for it is required to reduce its increasing independence on the industrial states in supplying us with foodstuffs and capital goods, by better exploitation of our human and material resources." He asserts that the achievement of this aim is in harmony with the integration of Arab manpower.

Numayri then reviews the Sudanese experience in "organizing and guiding the use of manpower." He says that Sudan has laid down a strategy for employment for the next 25 years, reviewed its strategy for education to meet development needs, established universities in the provinces, created opportunities for training, enacted legislation to define relations between employers and employees, increased the minimum wage in the past 4 years by 150 percent, achieved equal wages for the same work by men and women, and is preparing a program for social insurance for farmers.

Numayri asserts that the Arabs' agricultural and industrial resources are not being fully exploited because of lack of technical and administrative expertise and calls for a comprehensive survey to find out what should be exploited. Numayri adds: "The absence of organization and guidance for the Arab labor forces has led to the creation of patterns of consumer habits that have not only dissipated the savings of the Arabs but have also created a consumer outlook among those they have come in contact with. This poses dangers that should not be underestimated for potential regional and pan-Arab development." He invites the conference to carry out a comprehensive study of this phenomenon and its consequences.

Numayri then adds: "There are undeniable differences among the various Arab states with regard to the proportion of national income to population," and calls for a more just distribution of the burdens of training, higher education and specialization. Numayri asks: "Could not the Arab labor organization call for a pan-Arab contribution to set up vocational training centers and to support higher education in the more populous countries so a surplus Arab labor force can be achieved without upsetting the balance in the needs of these Arab states?"

Referring to the movement in the Arab labor force across the Arab countries, Numayri invites the conference to urge the Arab labor organization to encourage its member states to enact unified legislation to safeguard the rights and define the duties of this Arab labor force.

Referring to the Arab brain drain and emigration of experts to the industrial states, Numayri asks: "Could not your organization initiate a dialog with the ILO to restrain such a drain, even for a limited number of years?"

Numayri then refers to the need to legislate and care for agricultural workers--the majority of workers in most Arab states. Numayri concludes by stressing the benefits of Afro-Arab solidarity and urges coordination with the African states.

JANA: AUTHORITIES LAUNCH 'WIDE-SCALE ARREST CAMPAIGN'

LD041850 Tripoli JANA in English 1710 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Khartoum, 4 March, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Sudanese authorities launched a wide-scale arrest campaign within ranks of the Sudanese Armed Forces. Among others, the authorities arrested the commanders of the military academy and southern Sudan area. These arrests come amidst tumultuous demonstrations and general strikes all over Sudan because of a deterioration in political and economic conditions in the country.

The Sudanese president had disbanded the government of southern Sudan because of opposition by southern Sudanese ministers to his policies. Reports from Khartoum say that President Numayri is still removing all officials opposed to his policies, which has led Sudan to a dangerous situation.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSES LIBYA OF SPREADING MISINFORMATION

LD041854 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Text] Ali Shummu, minister of culture and information and official spokesman, received the Libyan charge d'affaires in Khartoum at noon today. He spoke to the charge d'affaires about the inaccurate reports being published and broadcast by the Libyan news media about Sudan. His excellency assured him Sudan had no need to issue official denials of what was being published by the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY and the other Libyan news media, inasmuch as Sudanese citizens are aware of Sudanese events and facts; facts are not concealed, and if anything happened in a Sudanese street every Sudanese would find out about it immediately.

The minister told the charge d'affaires that the Sudanese who read and listen to Libyan news media were amazed by the reports on Sudan issued by these media, particularly as these reports concerned a country in which the news media refused to publish any reports except those issued officially, paying no attention to reports by agencies, newspapers and other news media on Libya. There is no shortage of news and no great effort is required to collect it and have it republished or broadcast if so desired.

Ali Shummu told the Libyan charge d'affaires that what has recently been published about arrests is nothing but blatant fabrication, which the Libyan charge d'affaires, living in Khartoum with members of his embassy as he did, could refute if he wanted to. The minister offered him a special aircraft to take him to certain places to convince him that what his country's media are reporting is inaccurate and inappropriate between two fraternal neighbors.

WESTERN SAHARA

VIETNAM RECOGNIZES SDAR GOVERNMENT 3 MAR

LD031634 Algiers APS in Arabic 1355 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 3 March 79, APS--Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Pham Van Dong said that the government of Vietnam has decided to recognise the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Government. This came in a message sent by Pham Van Dong to Mohamed Lamine, SDAR prime minister.

The message said: I have the honor of informing you that the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has decided to recognize the government of the SDAR and hopes that relations between the two countries will steadily grow. Pham Van Dong added: "The Saharan people led by the POLISARIO front and the SDAR Government have scored new victories in their just struggle to achieve their right to self-determination and their national independence." The message pointed out that "solidarity between the struggles of our Vietnamese and Saharan peoples is being affirmed and grows steadily day by day." [sentence indistinct]

ALGIERS REPORTS SDAR MILITARY OPERATIONS 26-27 FEB

LD032300 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At the time the masses of the Saharan people were celebrating the third anniversary of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, the gallant men of the Saharan People's Army launched a series of attacks in the Western Sahara against a number of garrisons and centers of the expansionist Moroccan enemies on occupied Saharan soil.

The Saharan revolutionaries attacked the royal Moroccan garrisons in (Al-Judayriyyah) and Al-Habbuniyah) with heavy artillery on 26 February. On 27 February the fighters attacked the other royalist positions in Tifariti and (Al-Buwayrat), resulting in the death of 22 royalist soldiers and the wounding of more than 30 others and the destruction of a number of royalist tracked and other vehicles and the blowing up of a number of strategic enemy centers on the road that links (Bujadur) and El Aaiun.

DETAILS GIVEN OF CABINET SESSION, VOTE ON CARTER PROPOSALS

TA051601 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[From the IDF afternoon newsreel]

[Text] There were very few details from the deputy prime minister at the end of the Cabinet session, which was defined as a session of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. Good evening. Here is our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi. Can you give us any more details now from the Cabinet session?

['Abadi--live, on the telephone] Well, even now there are not many details. As the deputy prime minister, Prof Yiga'el Yadin, said at the end of the session, the Cabinet decided to accept the prime minister's recommendations concerning the new U.S. proposals presented to him at his meeting with President Carter last night. Mr Begin recommended, in a detailed, indepth and lengthy analysis of the U.S. proposals, that they be accepted. The U.S. proposals themselves were defined as an attempt to get out of the closed circle of the talks by setting a new direction breaking the pattern of arguments previously held between Israel and Egypt. The reference is to getting onto a new path which is, in fact, a series of conceptions of a way of relating to the points under dispute and a new approach to the essence of the matter: how to cope with the problems in the negotiations.

The decision was approved through voting: Nine ministers voted in favor of the proposal; four ministers abstained; three ministers--Hammer, Landau and Shostag--were opposed.

The question that remains open for the moment, now that the Cabinet has approved the prime minister's recommendations, is what the Egyptian position will be. Jerusalem does not know whether the U.S. position has been coordinated with As-Sadat or whether the U.S. proposals are known to him, much less whether he has agreed to them or not. We will undoubtedly know about this in a short time, because the proposals, if they have not yet been transmitted, undoubtedly will very shortly be brought to As-Sadat's knowledge.

More on Cabinet Vote

TA051617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Our political correspondent Shalom Qital has learned that four [as heard] ministers voted against the recommendations: Hammer, Landau and Moda'i. Four ministers abstained: Tamir, Shostak, Nissim and Burg. Nine ministers voted for the proposal.

Jerusalem POST on Proposals

TA060724 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Mar 79 p 1 TA

[By Asher Wallfish, Jerusalem POST reporter]

[Text] Israel has moved closer to the U.S. position in the peace talks with Egypt, now that the U.S. position has undergone changes after Premier Menahem Begin dug in his heels.

Begin has apparently given his consent to a proposal by U.S. President Jimmy Carter that elections for the administrative councils in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza no longer be specified as taking place 12 months after the peace agreement is signed. Instead, Begin has apparently agreed to a somewhat weaker formula, whereby Israel undertakes to make every effort to complete the negotiations with regard to the autonomy within the space of 12 months.

In return for this, Begin was apparently persuaded to agree that the principle of linkage between the Sinai agreement and the future of the West Bank and Gaza will remain.

It appears that the principle whereby the Israel-Egypt agreement takes priority over the existing commitments of each party under mutual defense treaties, Article VI (5), may well be omitted from the text of the treaty. Instead, the issue will be covered by reference to Article VI (1) which mentions the UN Charter, thus ruling out recourse to force. In addition, the principle of priority will apparently be covered by an interpretative note appended to the treaty, so phrased as to enable each party to present it according to its own views.

These approaches were apparently adopted because the parties had staked their prestige on the previous formulas, thus making it hard for them to back down. This became evident to Carter in the first two sessions of his talks last week with Begin in Washington and this is what prompted Carter to seek fresh-sounding concepts and thus break out of the vicious circle.

AFP on Proposals

TA052123 Paris AFP in English 2120 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, March 5 (AFP)--American proposals for a Middle East settlement call for Israel to agree to the completion of negotiations on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza within one year after the signing of an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, informed sources said here today.

Israel would also pledge to enforce rapidly, but without a timetable, the decisions that would emerge from the negotiations on autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, the sources said.

On the controversial issue of whether the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt would supercede Egypt's prior commitments to other Arab countries, the United States was said to be suggesting a compromise under which the treaty and Egypt's other commitments would not invalidate each other, the sources said.

The sources added that the U.S. proposals made no mention of a date for the exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt after the signing of a peace treaty.

Neither was there any mention of a privileged status for Egypt in the Gaza Strip, they added.

The sources said U.S. President Jimmy Carter would arrive here on Saturday night and would stay until the following Tuesday. Should Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat agree to the U.S. proposals, already accepted by Israel, the peace treaty could be signed during President Carter's visit to the Middle East, the sources said.

REACTION CITED TO CARTER'S PROPOSED TRIP TO MIDEAST

Begin Comment

TA051739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[From the evening newsreel]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent Eli Nissan--live via telephone from Washington] This minute the prime minister let me have the following announcement: [Begin recording] [Begin] I welcome the visit of the President of the United States to Israel following my invitation. This visit is of considerable importance to our people and to our relations with the United States, relations based on genuine friendship, as I have again been privileged to realize during my visit in the United States. I am certain that the people in Israel will receive our friend, the President, not only with our traditional hospitality, but also with warmth and cordiality.

I am shortening my visit in the United States. I shall take off for home on Wednesday in order to be in Jerusalem and personally take part in the preparations for this meaningful visit.

The President will come directly from Egypt at the end of the Sabbath. I trust, in the wake of the talks just concluded, that the visit to Cairo and Jerusalem will further the issue of peace and advance the prospect of signing a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. [end recording]

Yadin Interview

TA051840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[From the evening newsreel]

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Yiga'el Yadin, is in our Knesset studio and our political correspondent, Shalom Qital, is speaking with him.

[Qital] Good evening, Professor Yadin.

[Yadin] Good evening to you.

[Question] Does President Carter's visit to the Middle East indeed presage a breakthrough and signing of a peace agreement?

[Answer] First of all, I have nothing to add to what you have heard just now from the prime minister's words. He did not speak about a breakthrough; he spoke about the fact that this visit will make an important contribution to the achievement of peace with Egypt and I am convinced that this is so. I think that this decision, which we were prevented from reporting to even the Cabinet members--and they accepted this willingly--until it could be published simultaneously [last word in English] also sprang from the Cabinet's decision today, and I can only join in what the prime minister said--and I am sure of this--that the entire public in the country, the entire population, will receive the U.S. President with honor worthy of the President of the country which is friendliest toward us.

[Question] From that diplomatic, cautious texting, which says it--President Carter's visit--will advance the peace process and the chance of signing a peace treaty between us and Egypt, am I to understand that there is still something to negotiate over, that all the differences have not yet been settled? Israel has now agreed to the U.S. proposals, does this mean that Egypt has not yet agreed?

[Answer] I did not say that Israel has agreed to the U.S. proposals.

[Question] Today the Cabinet approved--Israel agreed to--proposals the prime minister brought....

[Answer, interrupting] The Cabinet approved the proposals the prime minister submitted to it, didn't it? Now,it is clear that if everything were already fine, then we certainly would be told that President Carter--I don't know, together with President as-Sadat--would come here or go there to sign on peace. That is not yet so. It is clear that there is, apparently, progress and the aim of this visit is to advance that progress towards the achievement of peace between Israel and Egypt.

[Question] Are you prepared to say anything about the contents of anything? Are there any reports from Egypt yet, or from Cairo, speaking about the fact that the agreement between Israel and the United States involves the precedence of the peace treaty or the accompanying letter on the target date. What have you to say about this?

[Answer] To my great regret, I cannot add anything to the Cabinet decision. The Cabinet met today as a ministerial committee [for security affairs] and the decision is confidential. It was handed over to the prime minister, and the prime minister, or President Carter, or both of them together, or each of them separately, will make these decisions and the results known at the right time. We also heard, as you heard, that the prime minister will move his arrival up and I assume that, as soon as he arrives, he will also give a suitable announcement to the Knesset or to the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. On Friday morning, right after his return, we will hold a Cabinet session....

[Question, interrupting] Has that already been decided?

[Answer] It has been decided.

[Question] Yes. How do you, Professor Yadin, explain that the contacts are in the meantime bilateral--United States-Egypt, United States-Israel--and we are approaching a peace treaty without direct contact between Israel and Egypt?

[Answer] Over the last year there have been all sorts of methods. At one time there were direct contacts; there were tripartite contacts. The development which led to what is happening now is known to us. After all, there was an invitation at first to the prime minister to go and meet with the prime minister of Egypt, an invitation which, under those circumstances, the Government of Israel rejected. It left an opening for the invitation of the prime minister by President Carter and that invitation really did come--because we thought, at that time, that before making progress on any other issues, there are severalproblems which we have to clarify between us and the United States, both on the issue of peace and on matters concerning the developments in the area and on bilateral issues. And, indeed, that is how it happened. The prime minister presented our positions and analyzed, together with the U.S. President, the developments in the area. We received proposals from the prime minister, which he recommended we should accept. The Cabinet made these decisions. As a result of this, the moves are proceeding as you can see. This is a part of, how is it put, the momentum [last word in English], a part of the process of the peace negotiations. Once it is direct, once it is tripartite, once it is between us and the United States, I hope--and the prime minister has also said--in the end we will achieve and sign a peace agreement with Egypt.

[Question] Are we now close to signing a peace treaty?

[Answer] I would say that we are closer today than we were yesterday.

[Question] Is that treaty, to which we are closer today than we were yesterday, better as a result of the developments which have occurred since the prime minister left for Washington? Better than it was before that?

[Answer] I cannot speak about the contents of the proposals, but it is a fact that the Cabinet accepted those recommendations.

[Question] Will there be activity on the governmental level before the prime minister arrives back from Washington?

[Answer] There is the normal activity of the Cabinet. If you mean...

[Question, interrupting] No. Political activity, of course.

[Answer] A Cabinet session is not, for the moment, planned until Friday, but it is impossible to know.

[Qital] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, thank you very much.

[Yadin] Thank you very much.

Peres Reaction

TA051934 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1805 GMT 5 Mar 79 TA

[From a special evening newsreel]

[Text] Our Knesset correspondent Zvi Lidar talks to MK Shim'on Peres.

[Lidar] Shalom Mr Peres, we are now in a live broadcast.

[Peres] Good evening.

[Question] How do you regard this surprising development, President Carter's visit to the Middle East?

[Answer] I think we all welcome President Carter's visit to Israel. This is the second visit by a U.S. president to Israel; there was a visit by President Nixon. Such a visit is desirable in the framework of the friendly relations between Israel and the United States. Essentially, I believe that, if possible, an agreement toward a peace treaty should be reached between us and Egypt.

We knew in advance that the disputed issues would be solved by way of a compromise. My impression is that, indeed, all the parties strove toward a compromise, which did not come as a surprise. Moreover, I think that the more we advance the conclusion of the negotiations the better.

However, we are compelled to tell the Israeli people that even if a peace treaty is signed, the process of negotiations has not stopped and will not stop since the most serious issue being discussed between the parties--the future of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza--is far from a solution--a practical solution and not just a solution on paper. The fact is we have given up the entire Sinai Peninsula, up to the international border, and there is no room for negotiations on that.

However, regarding autonomy, there are now two Israeli commitments: one, to start the negotiations within 1 month after signing a treaty with Egypt and the second--probably given recently--to try to end the negotiations within 1 year.

[Question] Do you think that the purpose of this visit is to wind up an issue which has already been finalized, that is, that a peace treaty will indeed be signed? I want to remind you that the prime minister said this visit would advance--he hoped it would advance--the signing of the peace treaty.

[Answer] Trying to give you an accurate answer will put us in a slightly ridiculous position.

[Question] By us, you mean the opposition?

[Answer] We, all the Knesset members, not only the members of the opposition. Inasmuch as today, when the chairman of the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee asked the deputy prime minister to report the Cabinet's decision--at least to the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee--the deputy prime minister refused to do so. We are now obtaining our information from the leaks reported to the press which the journalists report to us. I want to remind you that this is the second time such a phenomenon has occurred. When the government decided on the autonomy plan and the withdrawal from the entire Sinai, it reported its decision to the Americans, it reported it to the Egyptians, and the Knesset was faced with a fait accompli.

Moreover, we do not know the Egyptian reaction. I assume that the Egyptians--this is the impression I got in my recent talks with them--are interested in the end of the negotiations. It is assumed that, just as additional promises beyond those contained in the treaty were given to Israel, they were certainly given to Egypt as well. We do not know their nature and thus we lack two basic factors in order to come up with a complete assessment.

[Question] What do you demand then?

[Answer] We demand three things: First, as I said before, we welcome the advance toward the signing of a peace treaty, which is a decisive consideration; second, we demand a clear position on the future of Judaea and Samaria, the future of autonomy and the way the negotiations will be conducted; third, we think that our parliamentary institutions should not be ignored. There should be no contradiction between the peace process and the process of democracy. We pride ourselves on this democracy and it should not be ignored at this important moment.

[Lidar] Mr Peres, I thank you very much.

Patir Report

TA060720 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0530 GMT 6 Mar 79 TA

[Excerpts] The prime minister's adviser on communications and press affairs, Dan Patir, talked with our correspondent Dan Vessely in New York yesterday on President Carter's decision to visit Israel and Egypt.

[Begin recording--question] Mr Patir, will a peace treaty be signed in the wake of Mr Carter's trip to the Middle East?

[Answer] If everything goes well from our point of view, namely, that President Carter succeeds in convincing President as-Sadat--and there is no reason why he should not do this from a study of the material in question--and the Egyptians agree to the U.S. proposals as the Israeli Government has done, then this undoubtedly brings the peace process closer to the signing of the peace treaty. There are further moves on the way toward this of course but practically speaking, such agreement will contribute much to promoting the process.

[Question] Does the Israeli delegation expect another tripartite summit that will include a ceremony to sign a peace treaty or a tripartite meeting for further negotiations by Carter, Begin and As-Sadat?

[Answer] Look, we are not sitting here in New York constructing scenarios for ceremonies. Politically we are now waiting for the Egyptian answer to the U.S. proposals--a positive answer like the one given by the Israeli Cabinet. This is a partial answer. A full answer is a comprehensive answer to all the issues and not one that details the issues anew or introduces new (?clauses). I am speaking generally now. I do not know what the Egyptians will do and I hope they will not [reject the proposals]. However, basically speaking I can tell you that it is clear that there should be a tripartite meeting for the signing of the treaty. When this will be done or how--we do not know at the moment. The Israeli wish, the prime minister's wish, is that the signing ceremony will be held in both capitals, in Cairo and in Jerusalem. In other words, according to the prime minister's wish, the Hebrew version of the treaty will be signed in Cairo and the Arabic version in Jerusalem. President Carter will sign the English version in both places.

[Question] Mr Patir, on Sunday the prime minister was interviewed and said that the negotiations might still be long and tiring, while a few hours later everything seemed to have been solved. What happened?

[Answer] The prime minister was interviewed live on the ABC network. The broadcast was from 1200 to 1230 Washington time. At 1400, an hour and a half later, the prime minister was summoned by President Carter for a talk at the White House with the participation of both delegations. It was then, at 1400 Washington time, that the change occurred--I am not saying just a change but a very substantive change. The U.S. party submitted to the Israeli party new proposals, substantively different from previous proposals--important because they are new and different in nature from preceding ones. The proposals were given so that the prime minister could scrutinize them and allow the delegation accompanying him, including the jurists, to study them and give their opinions and, finally, to inform the government of both the contents of the U.S. proposals and his recommendations that these proposals be approved. We, the prime minister and those of us here, waited until the government made its decision this morning, Washington time. When the prime minister received the results of the vote, he telephoned the White House and informed President Carter of the decision. It is assumed that President Carter transmitted these developments to As-Sadat. Then, at 1000, Professor Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, came to Blair House with the U.S. President's invitation to the prime minister to come to the White House. The prime minister then heard this from the president and exchanged words with him. Following this meeting it became clear that the President had accepted Begin's and As-Sadat's invitations and will leave on the visit to Cairo and Jerusalem on Wednesday. [end recording]

MORE REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 5 MARCH

Retired Gendarmerie Commanders

LD051230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Effective 3 March 1979, 33 commanders of the state gendarmerie have been retired, according to the officers' retirement act approved in 1964-65. The commanders, all of whom have the rank of brigadier general, are as follows:

Hoseyn Rahnamay-e Azar; Mahmud Fahmi; Aqa Mir Ebrahim Amir-Khalili; 'Ali Amir Hamzeh; Ruhollah Lotfi; Hasan Ebrahimzadeh; Ahmad Nadur; 'Abbas Qavami Behzadi; Assadollah (Ruzbahani); Mehdiqoli Sa'idi; Azizollah Siavashi; Khosrow Zolfaqari; Yadollah Khaje'i; Hashem Zoka'i; Mozzafar Niazmand; Mahmud Ma'budi Moqaddam; Gholamreza Ya'qubi; 'Abdolhoseyn Ravandi; Khosrow 'Ameri; Iraj Samimi; Hoseyn Bordbari; Ezzoddin Nasri Amini; Morteza Naraqi; Hedayatollah Khales Hoseyni; Mohammad 'Ali Salehi 'Alavi; Morteza Shahverdi; Karim Forqani; 'Abdollah 'Abdollahifar; Amirhushang Khorrami; Reza Farshid; 'Ali Mir-'Abedi and Khodayar Amir Savadkuhi.

Execution in Abadan

LD051242 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] The following statement was issued today by the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Abadan: Musa Mir-Shekari, a sergeant in the Third Armored Brigade in Dasht-e Mishan, assigned to Abadan, was executed by revolution guards at 0200 today at revolution square in Abadan.

NIOC Director in Kharg

LD051130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] Hasan Nazih, managing director and chairman of the board of directors of the National Iranian Oil Company [NIOC], has arrived in Kharg Island, accompanied by other officials. In a speech at the local mosque, he said:

Today coincides with the anniversary of the death of the great Iranian liberal, Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq: This is a day when once again his aspirations are resurrected. He added: Some 25 years ago, the present prime minister of the provisional Islamic government came here to disarm the British company. We are here once again for a second time. We send our greetings to Bazargan. I salute the government and the noble oil workers and employees who once again after 3 months are resuming the export of Iranian oil in the interests of the country, on the very day we commemorate Mosaddeq. Now we are dedicating a small gift to the oil workers and employees.

Nazih said that the revenues from the sale of oil for the first day, totalling 10 billion rials, will be donated to a workers cooperative fund. Nazih said: Considering your kindness, this is a small present. This is your own money. As proposed by Bazargan, on 1 or possibly 2 or 3 days a month, oil revenues will be spent first for the development of Khuzestan and then for other provinces. Moreover, as again proposed by Mr Bazargan, the revenues from the first shipment of oil, exported to Japan today, amounting to nearly $30 million, will be spent on your own welfare.

The chairman of the NIOC said: To those countries which believe they can export any amount of oil at whatever price they wish, I say: Those days are over. He then pointed out: In our agreements, the interests of the Iranian people will be taken into account. He concluded: I ask you to introduce your representatives. Meanwhile, maintain your contacts with them in connection with your demands.

Bazargan Message to Oil Workers

LD051138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] With a message from Mehdi Bazargan this morning, read by Hasan Nazih, managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company [NIOC] to those participating in the ceremony for the first loading of crude oil on Kharg Island, the first shipment of Iranian oil, amounting to 230,000 tons, took place for the [name indistinct] company of Japan. Following is the text of the prime minister's message:

In the name of God, I send my own greetings as well as those of my provisional government to the people of Khuzestan, particularly to the dear oil workers and the employees. On this blessed day, in memory of the late Dr Mosaddeq, we export our nationalized oil in the interests of the country to world markets. Iran's Islamic revolution, led by Imam Khomeyni, triumphed once the civil servants entered the arena of struggle against the ancient despotism, and workers demonstrated their endeavors and solidarity. We are now moving toward reconstruction, with God's blessing and through solidarity of the people and their unity with the government, and toward achieving an Islamic republic--one of justice, blessings, power and prosperity. As proposed by the NIOC managing director and with the approval of the Council of Ministers, a small present will be given to Iranian workers. The revenues from the sale of the first shipment of oil, totalling nearly 10 billion rials, will be contributed to a workers loan and cooperative fund.

Khomeyni on Women's Rights

LD051300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni said that women have the right under Islam to divorce. He said this yesterday at the Feyzieh theological school in Qom, while addressing thousands of women Muhahidin. In the course of the speech, Imam Khomeyni said: Women enjoy a higher position under Islam than men. As for their marital affairs, women can even enjoy the right of divorce. Of course, this requires certain binding conditions which cannot be denied by men under any circumstances.

Military Personnel To Report

LD051506 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the chief of the General Staff of the Iranian Islamic National Army: In the name of God and in keeping with the wishes of His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni concerning organizing and creating a national Iranian Islamic Army, all military personnel must report to their units and resume their duties.

Consequently, all Islamic revolutionary committees throughout the country are expected to dispatch the military personnel cooperating with them, whether officers, technicians, NCO's or soldiers, to their respective garrisons. As already announced in previous statements, should they fail to report to their respective units they will be considered absentees.

Tabataba'i Order to Military

DO051807 Tabriz Domestic Service in Persian 1448 GMT 5 Mar 79 DO

[Text] The following is a message from His Eminence Ayatollah Mohammad 'Ali Ghazi Tabataba'i: In the name of the Almighty, as all Muslim people know, by the order of the great leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, and the [words indistinct] government all military personnel are ordered to go to their [word indistinct] bases in order to form an Islamic army. They will thus assist in forming an Islamic army for the government and the imam. All military personnel in Tabriz are hereby reminded that they should report to their former units as soon as possible. (?It is fitting at this time that the brave youth of the Islamic state should do their duty. Their mission in the Islamic revolution will be clarified after arrival at the bases.)

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Committee of Imam Khomeyni in Tabriz, Ayatollah Mohammad 'Ali Ghazi Tabataba'i.

Sari Identity Cards

DO051840 [Editorial Report DO] Sari Domestic Service in Persian at 1455 GMT on 5 March interrupts its relay of Tehran Domestic Service to report the news of Mazandaran Province. After describing the memorial ceremonies held for former Prime Minister Mosaddeq in such cities as (Qa'imshahr), Babol, Abbasabad, Khorramabad and Ramsar, the announcer says:

"In announcement No 24, the Islamic Revolution Committee of Sari has declared that Professor (Golpayeh) will be speaking on the topic of the recognition of the Islamic republic and about the ideology of religion in the Friday Mosque of Behshahr. He will be speaking in the evening after the sunset prayer, and all classes of society are invited to attend these meetings. In announcement No 27 of the Islamic Revolution Committee of the city of Sari, the guardians [pasdaran] of the Islamic revolution of this city are told to come to the Sari base tomorrow, Tuesday the 15th of Esfand [6 March], in order to obtain their identity cards. This has been today's provincial news from Mazandaran."

Navy Arrests Escapees

JN051918 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] The guards of the Islamic revolution from the naval branch have arrested 240 persons who attempted to escape the country. These persons were handed over to the operations center of the Islamic revolution in Abadan. Mr (Mowlawi), the commander of the gendarmes in Khosrabad region, has said that among these persons were 30 people who cooperated with the former regime of the shah against the revolution. The committee of the Islamic revolution in Abadan has announced that it has prepared fast boats manned by elements of the guards of the Islamic revolution and others to watch the coast.

Tribes Reject Separatism

LD051817 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A memorial ceremony to honor the 12th anniversary of the late Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq was held in the Kermanshah mosque tonight. During the ceremony, the text of a message from Dr Karim Sanjabi, the foreign minister, addressed to the people of Kermanshah, was read. At the conclusion of the ceremony, tribes of the western region issued a resolution.

Dr Sanjabi's message stated: You, the valiant tribes and the struggling people of the largest Kurdish city in the world, people who have always remained loyal to the great Mosaddeq and have been the best guardians of Iran's territorial integrity and national unity, through your active participation in the struggles against the killings and crushing of the people, have proved that, as always, you are the vanguard of the Iranian nation's struggles. In conclusion, Dr Sanjabi's message called upon the citizens of Kermanshah to work to build a free, independent, prosperous and glorious Iran, and not to change the beautiful and historic name of their city.

At the ceremony, which was also attended by the governor general, National Front members, academics, judges and ulema, several speakers praised the late Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq, the national struggler. Then a resolution by the tribes of the western region was heard. The resolution, passed by the Sanjabi, Allahyar Khani Guran, Qalakhani, Kalhor, Gargah, Babajani, Veradbaygir, Qobadi, Javanrud and Ravansar tribes, expressed their profound gratitude and respect for His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, and denounced any separatist ideas and traitorous conspiracies.

Khuzestan Meeting

JN051922 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Text] His eminence Ayatollah Mohammad Taher Khaqani announced to a meeting of more than 50,000 people in (Takhsi) playground in Abadan yesterday that the Arab tribes in Khuzestan do not want to secede. These tribes have repeatedly expressed their loyalty to and participation in the Islamic revolution in Iran under Ayatollah Khomeyni. He said: The faithful tribes in Khuzestan are keeping vigil night and day on the borders, but I urge all tribes and individuals to tighten their vigil.

Ayatollah Khaqani said: I would like to draw the attention of the respected Arab tribes that the oppression, suppression and tyranny practiced by the former regime of the shah has gone forever. He said: I admit that the rights of most of the Arab tribes in Khuzestan were neglected under the defunct regime of the Pahlavi dynasty. However, we must know that the rights of the other Iranian nationalities such as the Pharsis, the Kurds, Turks and others were also neglected. We all suffered under the Pahlavi imperial regime, and we hope to live as equals under the Islamic republic.

Defense Minister's Interview

LD051822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rear Admiral Madani, minister for national defense and commander of the naval air force, has spoken in a radio and television interview with our colleague, Mehdi Sabet, about the role of the armed forces and the new duties which will be entrusted to them.

With regard to the new duties of the armed forces, the minister for national defense said: Henceforth, our national army will work alongside the nation, in step with the nation and solely for the nation. He added that the organizations which operated under the former ministry of war will be handed over, if possible, to other organizations whose operations are related to or linked with former organizations. A number of them will operate under the Iranian National Defense Ministry in a new form and in keeping with the objectives of the Iranian movement.

Rear Admiral Madani said: The Chah Bahar base, which was being built to defend the interests of international colonialism, and the total cost of which was estimated at $4 billion, will no longer be built as originally envisaged, but will be converted into a fishing center for the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. An overall review of Iran's southern fisheries will also be carried out so that these are made economically viable. He added: Iran's fishing operations are insignificant compared with those of other countries. This situation cannot be allowed to continue. With regard to national service, the minister for national defence said: The national service period will be reduced from 2 years to 1 year. This will enable everyone to perform their national duty.

New Mines, Industries Minister

LD051845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1745 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to information we have just received, Mahmud Ahmadzadeh was today appointed minister of mines and industries by the prime minister.

Abadan Radio on U.S. Policy

JN052015 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Mar 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Any observer of U.S. imperialist policy in the four corners of the world can see the predictable and ignominious results of the blind, desperate moves carried out by the aggressive U.S. forces in a frantic attempt to expel the phantom of death in the last moments of life. While observing this gigantic and seriously over-sized state assuming the role of bloody piracy in modern times, the observer cannot help but feel pity for it. The United States is moving with confusion, looking for an agent to replace its former agent, the shah.

While looking for such an agent, the United States at times threatens to use force or to foment old troubles and disputes. The United States knows very well that the tyrannical force which ruled Iran was not able to stand in the face of the Muslim masses of the Iranian people. It fell while confronting the faith of the people. Despite the fact that all the electronic machines of the imperialists were not able to understand or fathom what took place in Muslim Iran, old and new imperialism is still seeking to use force and to hire new agents, U.S.-style.

Mosaddeq Memorial Ceremony

LD052230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, Hasan Hafezi, at a memorial ceremony in honor of Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq--the standard bearer of the movement of the eastern nations in their struggle against colonialism and despotism--which was held today at the graveside of this national hero on the 12th anniversary of his death, his old costrugglers in the National Front, members of the Council of Ministers of the provisional government, political and military fighters of the Iranian revolution, academicians and various strata of the people, as well as a group of foreign diplomatic representatives, including the representative of the Palestine revolution in Tehran, participated. The memorial ceremony began at his graveside at Ahmadabad at 1400 today.

His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani, the first speaker at the ceremonies, recalled the experiences of the constitutional revolution and of Dr Mosaddeq's antidespotism and anticolonialist struggles. Taleqani attributed the factor of discord and the fact that some of the leaders of the groups involved had fallen into the trap of divisiveness as the cause of the failure of those national movements. His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani spoke about the divisiveness by colonial agents among various struggling national and religious groups at present. He warned these groups and advised them that, instead of selfishness and factionalism, they should look to God and think in terms of the people.

Later Mas'ud Rajabi spoke on behalf of the Mojahedin-e Khalq. While supporting an Islamic republic, he demanded that this republic be created in line with the current social and economic climate. With regard to the Mojahedin's position vis-a-vis the provisional government of Mr Bazargan, Rajabi said: Our attitude toward this government will not be an adventurist or subversive one. We shall participate ourselves in the reconstruction process, denounce divisiveness and call for unity. He added: At the same time, we shall not retreat when it comes to matters of priciple, such as a struggle against imperialism.

Later, a representative of the Cherikhay-e Fada'i-ye Khalq, with greetings to the Iranian nation and Dr Mosaddeq, began his speech with reference to Dr Mosaddeq's anti-imperialist struggles and to the experiences of Iran's national struggles. By using the conflict existing between imperialists, Mosaddeq was able to organize Iran's anti-imperialist movement and to nationalize Iran's oil despite the influence of British imperialists in the palace. He then called upon revolutionary strugglers to prevent the spread of disputes within the masses.

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 6 MARCH

Qom Islamic Court

LD060945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The first sentence of Qom City's Islamic Revolution Court was carried out this morning. First Lieutenant Yadollah Mottaqizadeh, son of Javad, a police officer at Qom's Precinct No 2 police station, was executed by a firing squad of the armed fighters of the Islamic revolution of Qom beside the tombs of Qom's martyrs at 0245 today. He had been accused of murder, inflicting injuries and torture. He was sentenced to death by the Islamic court after 2 days of hearings.

Rasht Court

LD060948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Court of the city of Rasht met on 5 March in the presence of Imam Khomeyni's representative and a group of judges and lawyers. This revolutionary court sentenced to death Esma'i Khoda Tars, known as Esma'il Bija, for numerous charges and crimes over long years, as well as for antirevolutionary provocations, and also police Warrant Officer Mehdi Mohammadi Sefat, for killing two young fighters. The two were handed over to the execution squad by revolution fighters at 0405 today.

Nonuniversity Rallies Banned

LD060958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] In a statement, the provisional management of Tehran University has banned rallies and meetings at Tehran University by nonuniversity political and social groups without the approval of the provisional management.

Warning to Smugglers

LD060952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

[Text] PARS reports from Bushehr that the provincial Islamic revolution committee in a statement today warned professional smugglers to stop smuggling foreign goods and disrupting public order. Hojjatol Islam Mohammad Saleh Taheri, supervisor of Imam Khomeyni's committee in Bushehr Province [as heard], warns that should professional smugglers fail to stop smuggling, they will be identified and handed over to the Islamic judiciary authorities.

Police Station in Tabriz

LD060955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

[Text] This morning the first police station of the Tabriz police department in the era of Islamic revolution was opened in a special religious ceremony in the name of God and under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, and its personnel began work. This police station is on the same site of the old Tabriz prison, or the former Precinct No 5 police station. Lieutenant Khiabani is the chief of this police station. A group of Mojahedin and representatives of various sections of the population participated in the opening ceremony.

NVOI ON SIGNIFICANCE OF REVOLUTION, EXILES' DESIRE TO RETURN

TA051424 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 3 March carries a commentary entitled "Iranian Revolution's Victory and Its Popular Aspects," which says that "as a result of the people's armed uprising, the Iranian revolution has triumphed and an end has been put to a hellish regime." The commentary then scores the shah's regime and says that: "Although the shah and his imperialist supporters resorted to every type of oppression to maintain the nation's enslavement, the revolution foiled all their plots." The commentary says: "The Iranian nation's revolution has created a power divorced from the (?domination) of imperialist states and their political and military influence. It has crushed and destroyed the despotic regime. Despite this, serious tasks await the Iranian revolution. But this is not limited to our country. It applies to all revolutions."

The Iranian revolution is among the world's greatest revolutions, such as the French Revolution in the 18th century and the Russian Revolution in the 20th century. "It derives its strength from its being a popular revolution. It is so great that all workers, peasants, townsfolk, bazaar people--all classes of people and all political organizations--took part in it. They suffered and made sacrifices for years on end to achieve this result. The revolution derives its power from the unity of all national and progressive forces, and from all democratic and freedom loving peoples and all anti-imperialist forces. It can achieve greater victories for the Iranian nation. It is a popular revolution and its future victories will also belong to the people."

The radio then carries a second commentary entitled "People's True Forces Are Prepared To Serve the Revolution" which refers to those who "were compelled to take refuge abroad because of the shah's despotic regime." The commentary says: "Under Imam Khomeyni's leadership and with the participation of all Iranian classes, national and democratic parties, organizations, groups and forces, the Iranian nation overthrew the shah's cursed regime and brought to power a provisional revolutionary government. With the triumph of the revolution a new phase has been opened in the proud history of our homeland, Iran. From the start, the Provisional Revolutionary Government set to work to eliminate all the work of the ousted antinational regime, and to establish freedom and democracy in our country. The new government (?announced) its decision to that effect in its activities (?program). In the implementation of this important task, it needs the help and active and massive participation of all Iranians.

"One of the things the ousted regime did was to force tens of thousands of patriotic Iranians to leave the country. These people fled the country as a result of the Pahlavi dynasty's terrible oppression and the hunt by the police and security forces. They have been living in foreign countries for years now. Who are these compatriots living abroad? They are those who, some 30 years ago, had launched a struggle for freedom against the fugitive Mohammad Reza Shah's oppressive regime. The things achieved by the revolution are the things which they had been demanding over those years. Although these patriotic strugglers had to live outside of the country for so many years, they did not abandon the aim of liberating their country form the shackles of Mohammad Reza Shah's despotic regime even for a moment."

The commentary goes on: "These people have been struggling for the people's freedom, and are firm and irreversible enemies of the shah's regime. Although fugitives abroad, they have been fighting for the nation's liberation and national prosperity, progress and advancement. One can see such patriotic Iranians in all parts of the world--in Europe, the United States and Asian countries. Now that the shah has been rejected with the strong hand of the Iranian nation, now that the illegal imperial regime has been overthrown and a provisional revolutionary government has taken over the country's affairs, conditions have been created for the return to the country of all these patriotic sons of the nation, and for their service to and participation in the establishment of a free and (?independent) Iran.

"Following the victory of the revolution a great number of letters and telegrams have been received from Iranians living abroad. In these they have expressed their pleasure at and congratulations for the Iranian nation's victory, and their desire to return home. Yesterday, the National Voice of Iran carried a letter by the political exiles living in the Soviet Union.

"This letter, which was addressed to the Provisional Revolutionary Government's prime minister, Engineer Bazargan, was also published in many newspapers." The letter said: We Iranians, who were compelled to leave our country and our families as a result of long years of savage persecution and oppression by the terrorist regime and the hunt by Pahlavi's ruthless security organization, (?expect) to return home, join our proud people and serve the Iranian revolution. Allow us to employ with endless enthusiasm all our strength and the scientific knowledge and expertise we have acquired during our absence in the service of our country and for the progress and happiness of our heroic nation.

Such letters are now pouring into Tehran from Iranians living in exile. They have all expressed the desire to return home and to join their families and people as early as possible, and to actively contribute to the establishment of a free and independent Iran. "Our nation needs such people. All the Iranians expect the Provisional Revolutionary Government to create the conditions and to establish the organizations needed for the return to the country of these worthy and loyal sons of the nation who were forced to live in exile."

NVOI ON ROLE OF REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES, OIL ISSUE

TA060851 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1945 GMT on 3 March carries a commentary entitled "Revolution and Sovereignty," emphasizing the revolution's role in achieving genuine sovereignty. The commentary says that: "The greatest burden and sacrifice for the revolution falls on the workers, ordinary citizens and people in the bazaars. People's toiling forces are the real heroes of the revolution, and the struggle being waged following the revolution."

The commentary says: "The Iranian people are in the first stages of their revolution achieved at the cost of great sacrifices. The popular forces, which endured great sufferings in the process of achieving the revolution, are now taking an active part in the efforts designed to attain all the goals of the revolution. Actually, the Iranian revolution should be (?finalized) by the people themselves. The task of protecting the revolution, ensuring the implementation of the revolutionary government's program, and publicizing the revolutionary principles belongs to the popular forces."

The radio at 1745 GMT on 4 March carries a commentary on the revolutionary councils' and committees' "constructive contribution" to the Iranian revolution. The commentary says: "The revolutionary councils and committees have, undoubtedly, played an important role in the first and following stages of the revolution. They can certainly continue to contribute to new achievements. Experience has shown us that revolutionary committees have contributed enormously to the success of the revolution in oilfields, in business places, in offices and ministries and in cities and villages. The revolutionary committees and councils can also play a great role in reviving the economy and combating plots by domestic reaction and imperialism."

At 1745 GMT on 4 March the radio carries a commentary entitled" Consortium's Invasion of Iranian Oil Should Be Eliminated," which, after scoring the shah's regime for allowing the country's oil wealth to be exploited by foreigners, eulogizes the role played by oil workers in the revolution. It says: "Iranian oil belongs to the Iranian nation, and this wealth should be used for Iran's development and advancement and for the Iranians' welfare and prosperity. There is and should be no place for the consortium and of the oil cartel in Iran's oil wealth."

AFGHANISTAN

MUSLIM REBELS REPORT KILLING OF GOVERNMENT FORCES

BK060342 Hong Kong AFP in English 0328 GMT 6 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Peshawar, N.W. Pakistan, 6 Mar (AFP)--Muslim rebels in Khunar Province, northeast Afghanistan, caught government troops in two ambushes, killing 67 soldiers and officers, the Muslim rebel organization Hizb-e Islami said yesterday in a communique issued here.

The group said that the two clashes had taken place about two weeks ago in the mountainous Bazgul region, not far from the Pakistani-Afghan border. It added that the people of Bamyan 250 km (136 miles) from Kabul Feb. 26 against agrarian reform. [sentence as received] The rebels took advantage of a meeting organized by the authorities to give explanations, and were said to have killed the prefect-commissioner, the security forces chief, a government official, five instructors, and four policemen.

The communique said that the central government had given orders to security forces to go back to their bases and not to provoke the populace.

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN KABUL

BK050602 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 4 Mar 79 BK

[Excerpt] His Excellency Metod Rotar, the minister for foreign trade of Yugoslavia, with his delegation arrived in Kabul today to participate in the formal session of the joint economic commission of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia.

USSR DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE PAYS VISIT

BK030858 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 2 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, the minister of agriculture and land reforms, met in his office yesterday afternoon Mr Leonid Kuznetsov, the deputy minister for agriculture of the USSR. In this meeting discussions were held on raising agricultural production, expansion of state agricultural farms and construction of stations for agricultural implements in Afghanistan.

The deputy minister of agriculture for the Soviet Union arrived as the head of a delegation to Kabul on Wednesday.

PEACE, SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LEAVES FOR HELSINKI

JN021821 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khiyal Mohammed Qahraqazi, head of the radio and television department and chairman of the Afghan peace and solidarity committee, left Kabul today for Helsinki heading a delegation to attend the extraordinary meetings of the World Peace Council. Before leaving Kabul International Airport, he told the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY that it is (?probable) that the meetings will be attended by most world countries to denounce the PRC aggression against Vietnamese territory. The meetings will take place in the organization's headquarters in Helsinki.

INDIA

RAM CITES REPORTS ON PRC MILITARY BUILDUP

BK050759 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, told the Rajya Sabha today that the government is aware of the reports about the general buildup of military capability by China, including its naval buildup. Replying to a question, the defense minister said all such developments in our neighborhood, having a bearing on our national security, are taken into account in planning our defense preparedness. These are also kept under constant review in the light of the changing developments from time to time.

Replying to another question, Mr Jagjivan Ram said that development in production of suitable missiles carrying conventional warheads is also part of our defense plans and programs.

VAJPAYEE: NO LINKAGE BETWEEN SRV, PRC ACTIONS

BK031251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister has reiterated that China's aggression on Vietnam and the question of Kampuchea should not be interlinked. Mr Vajpayee said no nation has a right to take the law into its own hand and indulge in punitive action.

Mr Vajpayee was briefing the Janata Party Standing Committee on External Affairs on Indochina developments and his China visit in New Delhi.

VAJPAYEE: NO VIOLATION OF AIRSPACE BY PRC AIRCRAFT

BK060854 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, told the Rajya Sabha today that there was no violation of Indian airspace by Chinese aircraft during the recent joint inspection of China and Nepal across the Sino-Nepal border. He said: As these survey flights did not involve Indian airspace, the question of giving permission by India for overflight did not arise.

Mr Vajpayee was replying to a calling-attention motion by Mr Sadashiv Bagedkar, Janata, and several others on the reported permission granted to the Chinese authorities for aerial survey by Chinese aircraft over the India-China-Nepal trijunction points. He said the aerial survey has since been completed.

The external affairs minister added that the Chinese authorities had taken the initiative to voluntarily inform India on the 15th of June last year that the Chinese aircraft would be undertaking survey flights in Chinese and Nepalese territories across the Sino-Nepalese border. The first periodic joint inspection as envisaged in the 1963 protocol between the governments of China and Nepal started last year in May.

CONCERN VOICED TO U.S. OVER ARMS SUPPLIES TO PAKISTAN

BK021102 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 2 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The House was informed today that India has often in the past and more recently drawn to the notice of the United States its concern over the dangers of the arms sale which can upset the process of normalization of relations between India and Pakistan.

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Somarendra Kundu, told the House in reply to a question that the government has seen reports to the effect that the United States is deciding to give Pakistan substantial supplies of armaments.

OIL SHORTAGE TO BE ALLEVIATED BY END OF MARCH

BK031255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The petroleum minister, Mr Bahuguna, has said there will be no more oil shortage in the country by the end of this month because of supplies from Arab countries. He told newsmen in Calcutta today that Libya, Iraq and Abu Dhabi have promised to provide over 800,000 tons of crude oil.

NEPAL

FOREIGN MINISTER ARYAL RETURNS HOME FROM IRAQ

BK051602 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr Krishna Raj Aryal returned to Katmandu today after completing a 4-day official visit to Iraq. Mr Aryal told the press at the Tribhuvan International Airport that Iraq has agreed to supply petrol to Nepal. He said that a Nepali team might be visiting Iraq soon for further talks with the Iraqi authorities on this matter.

Mr Aryal said that Iraq's support to Nepal's proposition to be declared a zone of peace was full and unconditional. Stating that Iraq has shown interest in the development activities of Nepal, Mr Aryal said Nepal has submitted some river projects to Iraq for study. However, whether these river projects are to be launched with a bilateral or multilateral cooperation is yet to be decided.

PAKISTAN

BHUTTO LAWYER CONCLUDES REVIEW PETITION SUBMISSION

BK051035 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] In the review petition in the Mohammad Ahmed Khan murder case before the Supreme Court, the defense counsel concluded his submission today and the court asked the prosecution counsel to assist it on two points. He was asked in particular to assist the court on the quantum of the sentence and the scope of the review petition.

Mr Ejaj Husain Batalvi said he will take about an hour in making his submission tomorrow. The court directed Mr Yahya Bakhtiar to be ready to make a reply, if necessary, immediately after Mr Batalvi concludes his submission.

Earlier, summing up his submission, the defense counsel tabulated 31 points for the consideration of the court and requested the admission of the review petition for regular hearing. Before tabulating the points for the consideration of the court, the defense counsel today made submissions on the nonexamination of certain witnesses, the application of section 111 of the Pakistan penal code and the nonsupply of statements under section 161 of the criminal procedure code.

PIRZADA MEETS WITH HAQ TO APPEAL FOR BHUTTO

BK151533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting informed sources, has said that Pakistan People's Party leader Abdul Hafiz Pirzada, during his meeting with President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq last night, appealed for mercy for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. These sources, commenting on reports published in a section of press, said that the president met with Mr Abdul Hafiz Pirzada at the latter's request. They also said that during the meeting the president reiterated the views he had expressed on this matter during his press conference in Lahore last Thursday.

Reported Failure of Appeal

BK051303 Hong Kong AFP in English 1253 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 5 March (AFP)--Sources close to former Pakistani Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto today hinted that the latest approaches to President Ziaul Haq for a communication of Mr Bhutto's death sentence had failed.

Former Finance Minister Abdul Hafiz Pirzada was commissioned by Mr Bhutto to approach the head of state on his behalf. The meeting with General Zia took place last night.

The sources said Mr Pirzada was continuing in his mission and this morning met Gen Faiz Ali Chisti, military commander of Rawalpindi and regarded as a close aide of General Zia.

Reports today indicated that General Zia had been less concerned with hearing Mr Pirzada's case on Mr Bhutto's behalf than with trying to prove that Pakistan and the Pakistan People's Party would survive Mr Bhutto's disappearance.

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ECONOMIC TALKS IN RIYADH

BK050420 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Mar 79 BK

[Text] A three-member delegation led by Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan returned to Islamabad after a day's visit to Saudi Arabia. The delegation made the visit at the invitation of the Saudi Arabian Government.

The delegation exchanged views in Riyadh on matters relating to technical and economic cooperation between the two countries. The delegation included Agha Shahi, adviser on foreign affairs, and Major General Arif, chief of staff of the chief martial law administrator.

TRAIN TRAFFIC WITH IRAN TO BE PARTIALLY RESTORED 7 MAR

BK041039 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The train traffic between Pakistan and Iran up to the border town of (Takhtam) is to be restored from Wednesday [7 March]. A spokesman of the Pakistan railway told Radio Pakistan's Quetta representative today that through train traffic between Quetta and Zahidan would be resumed as soon as restrictions on train movements are removed by the Iranian Government.